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SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1910.

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G. L. GOMME, Clerk of the London County Council.

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August 16, 1910.

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HERBERT REED, Assistant Clerk to the Education Committee. 15, John Street, Sunderland, July 25, 1910.

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By Order of the Committee.
FRAS. W. CROOK, Secretary, Kent Education Committee.
Caxton House, Westminster, S.W., August 22, 1910.

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LITERATURE

Mark Twain's Speeches. With an Introduction by William Dean Howells. (Harper & Brothers.)

In one of those "Noctes cænæque deum" which no friend of Joseph Knight can forget, the present writer heard him contending story for story against an admirable American talker. Both were so delightful that it was difficult to put one above the other, but one point to an attentive listener seemed to emerge clearly. Both produced wonderful adjectives, a wealth of detail to adorn their stories; but in Knight's case the words flowed from his lips as freely as if he was speaking the simplest language, requiring no thought, whereas the American showed a deliberation which seemed to betray an effort of conscious memory or research.

In this he was, perhaps, characteristic of his nation, which maintains an admirable level of speaking by taking the art very seriously. Every American can speak—too well, and happily, hardly any Briton. Of course, Dickens in 'Martin Chuzzlewit' wickedly exaggerated American references to the models of the ancient world, but all the same, these masters are more freely referred to across the water than here. Not so long since an editor of our acquaintance was roused early in the morning to receive a registered packet of "press matter" which revealed the virtues of a defunct lady described as "the American Mother of the Gracchi";

and it does not surprise us to find Mr. Howells, in his brief Introduction to 'Mark Twain's Speeches,' mentioning Demosthenes and Cicero, and justifying by their practice the utterance of carefully matured impromptus. Spontaneity, it appears, is dangerous, almost unheard of, although we fancy it made the reputation of Themistocles. "Wit," as Iago says, "depends on dilatory time," and it is a little disappointing to find one generally regarded as a ready humorist achieving his results by such elaborate means as this. Mr. Howells explains that Mark Twain

"studied every word and syllable, and memorized them by a system of mnemonics peculiar to himself, consisting of an arbitrary arrangement of things on a table—knives, forks, salt-cellars; inkstands, pens, boxes, or whatever was at hand—which stood for points and clauses and climaxes, and were at once indelible dictation and constant suggestion. He studied every tone and every gesture, and he forecast the result with the real audience from its result with that imagined audience."

So the discourses before us are as elaborately artful as the 'Florida' of Apuleius, and their very abruptness, their sudden turns to something else and far-fetched introductions of stories, are all intended. We even find carefully prepared speeches which were never delivered. On the few occasions when Mark Twain had made no preparation the results are both brief and disappointing, and several snippets here included (as on p. 78) were hardly worth print.

We have another complaint before we come to the speeches as a whole. When Mr. Howells was introducing them, he might have done his old friend the service of seeing that they were properly arranged and edited. The discourses skip to and fro, from later years to earlier, and back, in an irritating fashion. On p. 31 Mark Twain replies to a neat speech by Mr. Birrell (June 25th, 1907); but for a reference to the same occasion on July 6th of the same year we have to wait till p. 388. On p. 386 we have a second speech at the Savage Club (1907), and have to wait for the earlier one of 1872 till p. 417. There is a good deal of repetition in various places; we do not think, for instance, that three versions of the stealing of a watermelon were worth giving. Close readers of Mark Twain's books will also recognize familiar matter, and interesting cases of the germ of ideas developed elsewhere.

A careful search would probably discover things more novel. We are able, for instance, to lay our hands on the report of some excellent fooling not mentioned here—Mark Twain's discourse to certain historic prisoners in Pretoria Gaol in June, 1896. He was delighted, he said, to find that the captives included only one journalist, and not at all surprised that the legal fraternity was so largely and influentially represented. The prisoners were to be congratulated and envied on getting into gaol, which he had never been

able to achieve. There was no such place for uninterrupted quiet. 'The Pilgrim's Progress' would never have been written if Bunyan had not been in gaol! Cervantes, too, was privileged to suffer durance vile, and was thus enabled to write 'Don Quixote.' Those men, however, were not in gaol, their bodies were. Cervantes was roaming about on the wings of imagination; and Bunyan was enjoying the company of angels and devils, leading his hosts through all the perils of battles and sieges, and enjoying all the intoxicating delight of glorious war without its dangers. "He simply superintended."

The charm of their life, he thought, would grow upon them, and he felt this so strongly that he would ask the President of the Republic, when he visited him, to extend their sentences. Many of them were drawing their salaries as usual, and those who were not might console themselves with the thought that, if they were released, they would have to be doing something for themselves. It was impossible to say what they might be doing; there were only their faces to judge by, and he certainly could not form a definite opinion from them—he could only suspect.

Such a passage would afford a relief from the perpetual reply to compliments which is the beginning of all the later speeches. The iteration must have been wearisome, and it is to be noted that Mark Twain has "little use," as the Americans say, for the empty coin of current compliment, the sort of thing which shows how mawkish the milk of human kindness can be. His Oxford degree, it is clear, pleased him mightily. More than once he expresses his distaste for depressing black clothes; he wears his white suit when his wife does not approve of it; and he openly rejoices in the gorgeous red of the Doctor's gown. In his last years he was much in request. Once he had to refuse two invitations from the Ohio Society which took respectively ten and eleven days to reach him. The letter he wrote in reply to these missives his wife did not see. It ended:—

"But, oh, I should like to know the name of the Lightning Express by which they were forwarded; for I owe a friend a dozen chickens, and I believe it will be cheaper to send eggs instead, and let them develop on the road."

The speeches represent him abundantly in that position of public commentator on events at large which he used with fearlessness, and which, as appears from a letter of his to the Speaker of Congress, he valued highly. He does not stint his disgust at the disorder and loss of life due to Fourth of July celebrations, and he sees a closer connexion between this country and the United States after the wars in South Africa and in the Philippines:—

"England and America; yes, we are kin And now that we are also kin in sin, there is nothing more to be desired."

Serious in aspect, he is delighted with recognition of the fact, as when a little girl thinks he is like a picture of John the Baptist, or he gets his hat ironed for nothing because he is taken for a clergyman. Joan of Arc is his favourite heroine; and he is never tired of paying tribute to his wife. He is a strong believer in Woman's Suffrage. Speaking on Copyright he declares himself in favour of protection for the author's life and fifty years afterwards, and points out that in the United States

"one author per year produces a book which can outlive the forty-two-year limit: that's all. This nation can't produce two authors a year than can do it; the thing is demonstrably impossible."

On the whole, the book is a very fair summary of the author's ideas and his manner of expressing them, and there are throughout stories, not easily separable from their context. The importance of a story in a speech may almost be called an American discovery, and these well-meaning persons who go on prosing and paraphrasing to keep themselves going should read Mark Twain's admonition:—

"Whatever moral or valuable thing you put into a speech, why, it gets diffused among those involuted sentences, and possibly your audience goes away without finding out what that valuable thing was that you were trying to confer upon it; but, dear me, you put the same jewel into a story, and it becomes the keystone of that story, and you are bound to get it—it flashes, it flames, it is the jewel in the toad's head—you don't overlook that."

No one ever told a story against himself so well as Mark Twain, and the book opens with an unfortunate speech in 1877 and a comment on it years afterwards which is delicious in its description of the entire collapse of the author and the speaker who followed him. In 1906 he thinks the collapse wholly undeserved, and vows that he could carry off the thing without failure. The speech was a long description of a bogus Emerson, Holmes, and Longfellow delivering parodies of their verse to a miner in the far West. It was delivered in the presence of these literary gods, and it certainly strikes one as a little heavy, while the parodies of verse are not very good.

We get some interesting glimpses here and there into the personal life of Mark Twain, his visits after many years to his mother, and to the home of his boyhood, his early experiences as an editor, his farming in Connecticut, and

"winning laurels. These people already speak with such high favour, admiration, of my farming, and they say that I am the only man that has ever come to that region that could make two blades of grass grow where only three grew before."

Characteristic is his tribute to Mr. H. H. Rogers, the benefactor who stood by him in the crash of 1893:—

"Mr. Rogers had long enough vision ahead to say, 'Your books have supported you before, and after the panic is over they will

support you again,' and that was a correct proposition. He saved my copyrights, and saved me from financial ruin. He it was who arranged with my creditors to allow me to roam the face of the earth for four years and persecute the nations thereof with lectures, promising that at the end of four years I would pay dollar for dollar. That arrangement was made; otherwise I would now be living out-of-doors under an umbrella, and a borrowed one at that. You see his white mustache and his head trying to get white (he is always trying to look like me—I don't blame him for that). These are only emblematic of his character, and that is all. I say, without exception, hair and all, he is the whitest man I have ever known."

It is maintained, we believe, in some quarters that Mark Twain is not a great American writer; he is certainly a popular one. In 1904 his publishers agreed to credit him with the sale of 50,000 volumes a year for five years. In his speech to the American Booksellers' Association in May, 1908, he says:—

"In the first year you sold 90,328; in the second year, 104,851; in the third, 133,975; in the fourth year—which was last year—you sold 160,000. The aggregate for the four years is 500,000 volumes, lacking 11,000."

It is a popularity which can be viewed with pleasure as owing little to the baser elements which attract the crowd. The best books of Mark Twain are not the best known, but in all of them he shows behind the humorist the keen and kindly critic of humanity.

TWO ASPECTS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

THE two volumes by Mr. Bayley and Mr. Broxnap are the latest evidence of the undying interest of their theme. Each of them can claim the suggestion of the benison of Prof. Firth, the recognized sponsor of good work upon the Civil War. Each of them, taken by itself, throws the light of contemporary local evidence, not merely upon everything connected with the phase of the conflict with which it specially deals, but also upon the relation which that phase bears to the whole, and upon many matters concerned with the characters of individuals, the temper of parties, and the causes of success or failure. Considered together, they form an interesting study in contrasts.

It would, indeed, be difficult to select two books upon the same general theme so opposed both in subject and treatment. The one deals with the extreme south, the other with the extreme north, of England—places as far apart, for all knowledge of one another, as London and Timbuctoo. Dorset, with no natural boundaries, was for campaigning purposes merely a part of the southern area.

The Civil War in Dorset. By A. R. Bayley. (Taunton, Barnicott & Pearce.)

The Great Civil War in Lancashire, 1642-1651. By Ernest Broxnap. (Manchester University Press.)

Lancashire was a land by itself, and, until the Civil War period, was virtually untouched from outside. In the first, large armies and leading generals were continually in evidence. In the second the forces were small, and the conflict was between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians of Lancashire, both led by men of no great military repute. In Dorset there was no overwhelming family influence; in Lancashire the Earl of Derby was, unfortunately for his cause, supreme. In Dorset, again, there was no obvious dividing line either of geography or religion; but Lancashire was north-west and south-east, and it was the one stronghold of Roman Catholicism, as it was later the stronghold of such Presbyterianism as English habits of thought could ever be induced to accept. In one matter only were they alike. Had the seaports of Dorset not been held for the Parliament, and had Sherborne and Corfe Castle been held for the King, the southern war might have been indefinitely prolonged; had the Earl of Derby and the Royalists of Lancashire triumphed, or even held their own, the Fairfaxes in Yorkshire and the whole Parliamentary cause of the North would have been paralyzed.

If the contrast between the subjects of these two books is striking, the contrast in treatment is still more emphatic. Readers of Bagehot's 'Estimations in Criticism' will remember the distinction which he draws in the essay on Prof. Masson's 'Milton' between the "exhaustive" and the "selective" methods, and his decision that the latter is the one to be adopted by "a biographer who wishes to write what most people of cultivation will be pleased to read." We question whether it would be possible to find a better illustration of his criticisms than is afforded by these two books. Mr. Bayley's method is the "exhaustive" *in excelsis*. His work is a monument of industry in transcription and compilation, as well as of comment. He has had command of an enormous amount of original matter, and he has used it mercilessly, his bibliography being overwhelming. Everybody who had the minutest share—voluntary or involuntary—in the contest in Dorset is in the book; every skirmish, every siege (the contemporary diary of the siege of Lyme Regis, for instance, covers ninety pages), every incident—all is placed before us with an amount of detail which positively gets upon the nerves. The result is a ponderous volume of nearly 500 pages of cruelly close printing, which no one but the really conscientious reviewer—not even a Dorset enthusiast—will read, if only because the eye wearies under the strain. Had Mr. Bayley written the book, instead of compiling it—and he can write well; had he commented and described, with the inclusion of well-chosen anecdotes—and he can describe and comment well—he would have produced a readable book in a quarter of the space. He has not recognized the value of appendixes.

There are, indeed, parts of the book

which are of the highest value, and which, since that value depends upon detail, must be exempted from this criticism. These are the really admirable Introduction, and the chapters upon the 'Clubmen,' 'Finance,' 'Disbanding of Local Forces,' and 'Ecclesiastical Affairs.' And the conscientious reviewer referred to can find, in the mass of meticulous detail, many nuggets of real worth to repay his toil. Space forbids even the mention of many of these; but the two which we quote are but illustrations of the finds which await industry and endurance. On p. 209 we learn something of the feeling of Protestant Englishmen of either side towards the Irish soldiers whom Charles brought to his aid. At the siege of Wareham, which was held by a mixed force of English Royalists and Irish, and which was in desperate case, a letter demanding surrender was read to the garrison, who were for the most part willing to comply. But

"Some few Irish rebels were averse; upon whose obstinate denial they were presently despatched out of the way and cut off by the other soldiers, in part in requital of the Protestant blood which they and their barbarous and bloody brethren had shed in Ireland."

In the following we discern no small part of the secret of the Restoration:—

"In 1656 Philip Hewlett, having absented himself from church, is 'upon the next complaint to be sent to Bridewell.' In 1658 Samuel Cole is fined for the same fault, 'but, for want of money, sett by the heeles'; Katharine Barlett, widow, 'did absent herself from Church last Lord's day in the morning; she is to pay 2s. 6d., and in default to be sett in the stocks.'... Travelling on Sundays was also punished; and for walking abroad during sermon time a pair of 'swetehertes' are convicted.... Children were convicted of playing games on the same day, such as 'spurpoint' and 'nine-stanes,' and so forth."

As Mr. Bayley's book is an extreme example of the "exhaustive" method, so we have in Mr. Broxnap's an instance of the "selective." His theme is no doubt simpler, more cleanly cut. But he too had a vast amount of detail to his hand. By a judicious use of it he has produced an eminently readable and informing work. When we have finished it, we understand exactly how, why, and when the important events occurred—the causes of strength and weakness, of success or failure—the divisions and temper of parties, the characters of men. Mr. Broxnap is not afraid of quotation and anecdote; but he limits these aids to what is necessary to push home his own statements or comments. Here, too, there is an excellent Introduction, which enables the reader to realize the ground and conditions of the struggle; there is also an able analysis of the character of the Earl of Derby, about whose person the Royalist cause centred. The descriptions of events like the siege of Lathom House, the fight at Padisham and its effect, the battles of Preston and Wigan Lane, and of the misery which

the contest brought upon the county and its trade—"who would either build or repair a house when he could not sleep a night in it with quiet or safety?"—display most creditable powers both of selection and expression. The University of Manchester, which, but for the pressure of the political situation, would have been founded in 1642, is to be congratulated upon its choice of an historian of the war in Lancashire.

Rambles in Surrey. By J. Charles Cox. With 24 Illustrations and a Map. (Methuen & Co.)

Dr. Cox's book is, as he says in his dedication, "an unconventional record of walks in Surrey"—walks which "have been arranged to comprehend all the county, with the exception of Croydon and that busy portion of the north-east which is now within the county of London." The book is likened to a modern model, but reminds us, in fact, of that by Jennings entitled 'Field Paths and Green Lanes,' which, published as long ago as 1877, has gone through several editions, and has supplied some judicious quotations here. We naturally look to Dr. Cox as a safe guide to those intricate details of church architecture which need the judgment and experience of a lifetime, for we know that his praise and denunciation are alike well founded. But, like Jennings, though in a more genial temper, he has vivified his rambles by recording occasionally the conversation and incident they brought forth. This human interest is an agreeable feature of the book, giving it a freshness which is beyond the grasp of the usual topographer, and doubly welcome in a county so much traversed as Surrey. Dr. Cox combines, in fact, the perseverance of the expert with the gaiety of the athlete who thinks nothing of an extra mile or so, or the vagaries of railway companies when they name their stations after places somewhere in the neighbourhood. Inns and railways, though the young school of high-flown exponents of the open air affect to neglect them, are necessary for the most determined walker. Though to be lost is the beginning of romance, to know of good harbourage is pleasant, and Dr. Cox has, we are glad to see, mentioned *honoris causa* more than one *hospitium*. He thinks it "somewhat strange" to find the keys of the church at Wotton at the inn. It is certainly a natural practice where, as happens often, the church and the inn are the only considerable buildings in the place; and were not many *hospitia* of early days under religious care, while in later days the parish feasts called "church ales" must have fostered a similar connexion? From a practical point of view the inn is better than the cottage as a repository of keys, for the latter has a way of being untenanted or locked when you have found it.

John Evelyn was taught at the church

porch of Wotton, and this leads to the comment:—

"There is now no upper room to this porch, but there must have been such a room in Evelyn's days. A small village school in olden days was not infrequently held in such a place. I can think, as I write, of evidence of this occurring in a porch-chamber in at least a dozen places in different parts of England; indeed, in those country parishes which were fortunate enough to possess a day-school of any kind, it was the rule, and not the exception, to hold them in churches."

Dr. Cox, although he is a learned antiquary, is able to see good in some modern churches, such as those erected by Gilbert Scott at Westcott, and G. E. Street at Holmbury St. Mary. The latter is not attractive to the average layman, who can, however, sympathize with the strong remarks concerning the Early Victorian craze for "restoration." Close to this district there are two interesting industries which might have been noticed—one the scientific growing of water-cresses, the other the picturesque business of charcoal-burning, which is watched from a hut made of turf in the solitary woods. Dr. Cox gets some amusement out of guide-books which are not backed by first-hand observation. Thus there is a pillar recording the death-place of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, which bears simply a date, and the initials S. W. with a pastoral staff between them. This a guide-book calls "the pathetic and well-merited inscription at the base of the cross to the many virtues of one of the most worthy of England's prelates."

Cranleigh, visited on a Wednesday of early closing, did not arride our traveller. He talks of a big public-house trying to be an hotel, but we can assure him that, if he knew the place well, he could find a real hotel with a service and accommodation which attract guests of good standing from London. Why should not Cranleigh aspire to be a town if it likes? If it acquires ugliness, it offers also facilities beyond the village for which one student of country life at least is grateful.

Surrey is, as we said, a much-traversed county, but there is ample interest for the pedestrian even in ground thought to be familiar. He is happily deflected to the by-ways by the motorist, whom Dr. Cox would not, perhaps, be unwilling to describe in the words of Tennyson as "a maniac scattering dust." This daily increasing class of tourists is not gifted, as a rule, with the seeing eye, even if speed allowed of its use. For instance, the motorist, says our author, passes by the beautiful Crossways Farm which is associated with Meredith's 'Diana,' and has no time to diverge from the Hog's Back to the pretty villages on its borders, or even to seek on the other side of its hedges a perfect English view.

Altogether, without overloading his book, Dr. Cox has managed to introduce an extraordinary amount of detail, partly because he summarizes the results of

research, or refers to the best authorities, and, instead of entering into lengthy disquisitions, chooses an illuminating incident. Thus the power of Waverley Abbey is shown by the story of a youth charged with homicide who had taken sanctuary in its precincts. A knight insisted on arresting him, and committed him to prison. The monks then agreed to suspend all celebrations till redress was obtained, and their case was laid before the Papal Legate and the King.

"Thereupon the prisoner was restored to the Abbey, and the violators of the Church's order appeared at the gate of the monastery here to make satisfaction to God and the Abbot. After having been publicly scourged by the dean of the house and the vicar of Farnham, they were absolved."

Among the amusing experiences of the rambler we may quote the following. He was seeking for Burstow Church, and asked an old stone-breaker if he was on the right road:—

"'Yes,' he said, 'and it's still a stiff bit of a walk, so you must hurry up.' On expressing my surprise at his anxiety as to my speed, he added, 'Why, they will all be waiting for you; you'll find the church quite full, and there's a maze of carriages have driven on.' To this I replied I should much prefer to find the church quiet and empty. He looked fairly amazed, rubbed the back of his hand across his brow, took off his eye-guards, exclaiming, 'Why, whatever's wrong with holy matrimony?' On signifying my approval of the ancient rite, he said, 'Well, ain't you the relieving minister that they're expecting? It's as big a wedding as they've ever had at Burstow.' I found that the term 'relieving minister,' new to me, is in current use hereabouts for one who is generally known as *locum tenens*!"

Dr. Cox regrets his inability to draw or paint, but he is able to give us in words many striking pictures of the country. He has a special eye for old trees, which he measures, to the confusion of local legend concerning their girth; and does not disdain to mention flowers and ferns. In a quotation (p. 179) we came across the "Rosebery" willow herb. This description of *Epilobium angustifolium* is new to us, suggesting a strange affiliation to the Primrose Family. It is probably due to the printer, who has generally been kept up to the mark by the proof-reader. We note one detail that might be altered in a second edition. At the top of p. 103 read "will be" for "has been already," for the "Ramble" referred to occurs later. Apart from a lax use of the present participle, the writing throughout is clear and to the point. All will appreciate the recurring demand for a reverent treatment of church and churchyard; not all the description of the memorial chapel to G. F. Watts at Compton—too Italian, perhaps, for its English setting—as "weirdly pagan." The adjective is equally applicable to Milton's 'Ode on the Nativity' and other monuments of Christian art which owe much to secular sources. Those who can trace the origin of the common type of angel in the beauty

of Athena Nike have given up such an adjective as "pagan," because it implies a false demarcation.

There are some well-chosen illustrations, and the book is completed by a good Index. It should be widely read and enjoyed.

English Literature and Religion, 1800–1900.
By Edward Mortimer Chapman. (Constable & Co.)

THAT religion, however widely or narrowly you describe it, is an indefeasible element in humanity, no intelligent materialist, still less any wiser man, would think of denying in this age of science. It is there, as hunger and love are there, or reason and will. But more than any other it is pervasive and dominant, being concerned with that ultimate region of reality toward which all the lines of thought are seen to travel, as if born to the journey and in search of peace. Dominant and pervasive: because a man's religion, what he thinks finally of the universe, will give a colour to his thoughts about all lesser things, and will determine to some extent the state as well as the use of his faculties. And so it must be traceable in every expression of man's soul, individual or social, that is comprehensive enough to represent him as he is.

Had Mr. Chapman started with a clear perception of these two truths—that vital literature is an expression of personality, and that every significant personality has its domain of thoughts about man's relation to the universe, however dimly defined—he might have dispensed with the somewhat dull opening chapter which proves that a relation between literature and religion exists. He might also have been less surprised, perhaps, at finding towards the close that his book is much longer than was intended. Most books are; but, upon his method, there is no reason why this one should not have become endless without breaking the frame of its conception. If it had been done less at length, it would, we think, have been done better, and a little differently. The necessity for compression is a school of literary virtue, and in this case it might have thrown the author back upon the exercise of one which is germane to such an intellectual survey as that he has attempted. We refer to the element of generalization, especially in presenting the temper of a time or the intellectual and moral prepossessions of definite groups of men. The author seems ever and again on the point of doing this, as in his account of the *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly* writers, and of the Clapham Evangelicals; but he always goes off into personal appraisements and essentially literary criticism. Thus the Oxford Movement is dealt with rather by way of allusion and assumption, quickly breaking down into biographical comment and criticism, than by deliberate presentation of its coming and character as a whole.

Doubtless it was not the author's business to write again that oft-written history. But the name stands for a peculiar and expectant state of the moral and intellectual atmosphere in which a number of notable men, who are here discussed individually, abode for a time; and some kind of sympathetic realization is necessary for an understanding of these men and the influence they carried so divergently into life.

Again, there is an excellent chapter on the disturbance produced by Darwinism, but no reference to 'Essays and Reviews'—a memorable declaration of the humanistic attitude towards a contemporary phase of faith, and a work which marks, or rather produced, a definite movement of religious thought in England. Curious, too, is the absence of any reference to 'Ecce Homo,' since there can be no doubt about that book being veritable literature, and still less about its having influenced the development of religious conceptions among the enlightened. This general failure to distinguish adequately the tidal movements of opinion deprives Mr. Chapman's comments of much of the value that should belong to them, by making them usually lack relation to any but the personal subject. The same defect makes the book, for all its catholicity and sanity, singularly piecemeal and unprogressive, by excluding any large sense of what the travail of the century's soul has been and has resulted in.

But to read the book is pleasant, informing, and provocative of comment. Our own comments must remain upon the margin, but they as often express admiration as dissent. If the author has the defects, he also has the good qualities, of his bias towards personal and literary appraisements. His heart is very much in it, and his head admirably clear, when he vindicates Cowper against the disparagements of the superior; and he is just without being conventional regarding Burns. These, with Crabbe and Blake, are the singers before sunrise of whom he takes note. Regarding a yet earlier singer—one who sang in the dark, we must suppose, but certainly spoke in the light—he has this excellent *obiter dictum*:—

"Johnson's gigantic capacity for prejudice was frankly enlisted upon the side of the religion of the Church of England. Yet the veriest cynic who follows his noble and pathetic, even if somewhat grotesque, figure through the pages of the 'Life,' which is, after all, Johnson's chief contribution to English literature, must admit it to be in the larger sense a profoundly religious book—a book for the soul's instruction and reproof as well as a fountain of humour and all intellectual delights."

This, we repeat, is admirable; it would be hard to name a secular personality whose religious side imposes such profound respect as Johnson's.

Here is another example of our author's right-heartedness and striking-power in a good cause. As becomes a good American, he refers with grief and shame to

Mr. Howells's ill-famed dictum that Sir Walter Scott could "still amuse young people," and then gathers himself up to the keen retort:—

"It is well said rather than well meant. Baalam-like, Mr. Howells has blessed when he thought to curse. For not only has Sir Walter amused young people for more than four score years: during no small portion of that time they have been the same people, who have found their youth renewed and their pulses quickened as they rode across the Border or went on pilgrimage with him."

Reverting to the poets, we find his chapter on Wordsworth and Coleridge (as "Sons of the Morning") more satisfactory than the one on Byron and Shelley. He comes to it but slowly, and not very forcibly, with Shelley; while in regard to Byron we hardly think he arrives. He has apparently been unable to extract any religious essence from Keats, for he leaves him out of sight. He does better with Dickens and Thackeray, but might have noted that the religious sanctions and supports are more in evidence in the latter's account of life. His remarks on Lamb are to the right effect; but he clearly knows his Birrell better than he knows his Lamb. The slight and slighting reference to Francis Thompson is hardly justified; and Christina Rossetti does not receive such ample treatment as the sheerly poetic strength of her best work, and its saturation with religion, should have won for it here.

NEW NOVELS.

Not Guilty. By W. E. Norris. (Constable & Co.)

THE opening chapters of 'Not Guilty' proceed rapidly from murder to arson, but this fact need deter no reader from the highly pleasurable exercise of accompanying Stephen Haverfield the hero through the course of his engaging encounters with the malice, prejudice, and injustice of his fellow-beings. We pity him, but it is impossible entirely to absolve him from the blame of having created his own martyrdom. It is certainly through no effort of his that he is acquitted by a reluctant jury of the charge of murder and "cut by the county." His one staunch neighbour provides him with a livelihood, and he is brought into familiar relations with the hoydenish daughter of his employer, with results interesting to the reader. The author tells his story in a clear, incisive fashion, and makes it seem real by a skilful and abundant use of the concrete facts of life.

The Lauristons. By John Oxenham. (Methuen & Co.)

THE tragedy presented is in the main the same as that of Mr. Granville Barker's play 'The Voysey Inheritance,' but whereas Mr. Barker shows a son refusing

to take up the shameful burden left to him on the death of a fraudulent financier, Mr. Oxenham presents to us a son continuing, in consequence of a promise extorted just before death, the task of building up the fallen fortunes of a great banking house. The scene is divided between England and France in the stirring times of Waterloo, and contemporary characters are introduced with telling effect. A villain might have been an effective contrast to the many fine characters, but we cannot regret his absence.

The Herdsman. By Algernon Gissing. (F. V. White & Co.)

READERS addicted to melancholic fiction, in which heroes and heroines reach a tear-stained happiness, will enjoy this deformed idyll. Mr. Gissing's hero is a young man whose good temper approaches the sublime. Being passionately fond of the country, he resigns his situation as a compositor, and becomes a shepherd and the husband of a shepherd's beautiful daughter, who blights her own life by infidelity to him. He has, however, a promise of happiness in a second marriage which is impending when the book concludes. Mr. Gissing's style is infinitely superior to his plot, if one may apply that term to an artless arrangement of incidents, and we must acknowledge the charm of his Northumbrian local colour.

Jehanne of the Golden Lips. By Frances G. Knowles-Foster. (Mills & Boon.)

THE main historical event in this novel, to wit, the murder of Prince Andrea of Hungary, has been more effectively used by another hand in a romance of a different complexion, in which the sympathies of the reader were enlisted for, instead of against, the Prince Consort. The present author holds a strong brief for Queen Jehanne, and figures her as the innocent heroine of an anachronistically idyllic love-tale. The style is slipshod, and the characterization negligible; while, as a whole, the book is lacking in the vitality and atmosphere with which so richly coloured a period must have been invested.

A Border Scourge. By Bertram Mitford. (John Long.)

THIS is an excellent example of the class of story on which the author's reputation is based. Characterization is here a negligible quantity, and incidents in rapid succession, with rather slap-dash descriptions of adventure, are relied on to retain the reader's attention. The male characters are cruel and unscrupulous ruffians, or amiable, chivalrous, good sportsmen who advertise their quality by means of frequent "Ha, ha's!" and jovial invitations to drink. The two women of the story are quite in keeping with it. But, to be frank, none of these people is in the least realized. Human figures are

required to give cohesion to the series of fights and adventures in the wilder parts of South Africa; and they are accordingly supplied, and endowed with "rosebud" mouths, or bronzed faces, according to sex and tradition. There is nothing unwholesome about the book, which should be thoroughly enjoyed by schoolboys and those of their fathers who happen to be in holiday mood.

SHIPS AND THEIR STORY.

Sailing Ships: the Story of their Development from the Earliest Times to the Present Day. By E. Koble Chatterton. (Sidgwick & Jackson.)—Written primarily, as the author says, for the general reader, this history should prove of interest and use to seamen also. It does not follow that because a man is a good navigator he also knows the history of his craft. As a rule he does not.

Mr. Chatterton begins with the Egyptian ships as far back as 6000 B.C. The model illustrated from an amphora in the British Museum reveals a square sail and high prow such as existed in other primitive civilizations. From Egypt Mr. Chatterton takes us to Phoenicia, to Greece and Rome, to Northern Europe and the Vikings, and so down the ages to the steel four-masted ships and barques of the nineteenth century. A chapter is devoted to the fore-and-aft rig, which originated in Holland in the sixteenth century. The first schooner was built and launched at Gloucester, Mass., in 1713, and the Americans have ever since maintained their reputation in this rig. It made incursions on the square rig, and was responsible for the development of brigantines and barquentines.

Mr. Chatterton writes not only with knowledge, but also with enthusiasm. He has a zest for the sailing ship, and he is inclined to believe that the introduction of the motor will retard the departure of sails. He thinks that as motors can be installed in ships up to 700 tons, sails will continue to be employed, and the motor used for calms and in lieu of tugs. But the same prophesy might have been made of auxiliary steam, which has completely disappeared except in a few instances of pleasure yachts. We fancy the knell of the sail in commerce was sounded when steamers crossed the Atlantic, but it takes long a-dying. The latest information now suggests that motor power may make other means of propulsion obsolete.

Steam-Ships: the Story of their Development to the Present Day, by R. A. Fletcher (same publishers), is a companion volume. Mr. Fletcher had not the same quantity of time to cover as Mr. Chatterton, since the history of steamships comprises little more than a hundred years. But the rapidity and movement of the evolution render the history of steam absorbing. The use of steam at sea goes far beyond the times of Watt and Stephenson, but it is an English countryman of these inventors who can be claimed as the real inventor of the steamboat. This was Jonathan Hulls, who was born at Aston Magna in 1699, and received letters patent for his invention in 1736. He failed because financial support was lacking, and died destitute, but "the world inherited his ideas." Actually it was a Frenchman, the Marquis de Jouffroy, who made the first workable steamboat in 1783.

In America Rumsey, Fitch, and others experimented about this time, but Robert Fulton, the inventor of the torpedo, has the credit of establishing the steamboat as a commercial concern early in the nineteenth century. Fulton profited by his predecessors' experiences, and conducted experiments in France and elsewhere on the lines of Jouffroy and Symington, a British inventor. Fulton's enterprise made steamships practicable, but he cannot be regarded as the pioneer. That honour seems to be shared between Hulls and Jouffroy, between England and France. By 1829 the first P. and O. steamship, the *William Fawcett* of 209 tons, was built. The first steamship constructed in these islands was built in 1789 by Symington. Thus early did Scotland take a hand in maritime engineering. All this account of the early attempts to utilize steam is very interesting.

The first steamboat to cross the Atlantic was the *Conde de Patmella*, which sailed from Liverpool via Lisbon to the Brazils in 1820. Wood gave way to iron, iron to steel. The *Rotomahana*, built by Denny Brothers in 1879, marked the definite close of the iron age; and it was in another New Zealand steamer from the same yard, the *Otaki*, that reciprocating and turbine engines were first installed.

Mr. Fletcher's book is well illustrated, and contains chapters on the later naval developments, as well as on various modern specialized steamships, tramps, and floating docks.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Complete Peerage, Extant, Extinct, or Dormant. By G. E. C.—Vol. I. *Ab-adam-Basing*. Edited by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs. (St. Catherine Press.)—To say that this finely printed book—the beginning of a series—is a valuable and interesting addition to peerage literature is to say little. On the original 'Complete Peerage' much care and zeal had been expended, and it was so notable a work that one cannot but congratulate (except on one point) the editor of this enlarged and improved edition. Following G. E. C.'s work closely, he takes the same lines, but much information has been added. Several articles (like the important one on Barry, Lord Barrymore) have been rewritten; the list of Jacobite peerages (still imperfect?) and the longer notes, such as those on precedence, eldest sons summoned to Parliament in their father's lifetime, &c., placed at the end of the volume; and the politics of the peers are now stated where possible, which is a useful addition. The Preface contains a dissertation on early English peerages by writ and the difficulties in apportioning their value, on account of the different pronouncements to which they have been subject. Many veteran authorities have assisted the editor, as well as the new 'Scots Peerage,' which has been freely used. Dr. Horace Round has contributed his redoubtable knowledge, and Mr. Burtchaell has put at the editor's disposal his help in regard to the early Irish peerages, which bristle with difficulties.

It is not without qualification (for two reasons) that one praises the shorter notes to this new edition. It is perhaps not to be expected that, in view of their length, references should be given in each case, and the editor adds after most of them only his own initials. But this silence reduces their value, as many of them cannot be checked. For instance, one would like to know where he found that John Walkin-

shaw of Barrowfield (v. Albany) was three times married and had a daughter (who is not mentioned in his will) Maria Matilda, as these facts—if true—are new to history: not perhaps very important for a peerage, but all the same statements difficult to verify or disprove. It is unfortunate also that the editor has endeavoured to continue naming the disease of which each peer or peeress died, as, from the nature of medical knowledge in former days, this could often not be certainly known. It does not help much—even in the study of heredity—to be told (and this is typical of many examples) that the wife of the fourth Earl of Abingdon died in 1794 of "a complaint of the stomach."

Many of the notes are absolutely unnecessary in a learned Peerage of the kind. We may allow an amusing note on the possible results of sales of peerages by tenure, or the sly hit about special limitation under Amherst of Hackney; but why are we given six lines on the parentage of one peer's German wife—a learned peer whose memory the editor goes out of his way to attack on the next page? It is the vindictive quality in the notes, indeed, which we dislike most, and this is the point, reserved before, upon which we cannot congratulate the editor. They seem generally designed to give pain, like some recently published memoirs. We are told that the wife of one living peer's heir, according to a correspondent, "though on what authority I know not," was "a Scandinavian steerage emigrant to Nova Scotia"; and that the first marriage of another took place when her second husband "was but 2 years old." The editor, who introduces a not uninteresting, but still unnecessary fact about his own descent from a peer and the date of his birth, seems to think it necessary to embellish what would otherwise be an admirable work of reference with materials fit for a *chronique scandaleuse*, and to bring out many unsavoury facts although they do not bear upon the domestic history essential to a Peerage. That everything ought to be told about marriages or bastardy (and such has occurred) of any holder of a peerage, so far as it touches the succession to that peerage, may be admitted; but that the unfortunate predecessors of a peer should be pilloried by an editor who acts as a self-appointed censor morum is we think a pity. The editor would, in our opinion, have been better employed in eliminating this regrettable characteristic from his uncle G. E. C.'s learned and studious work than in increasing it with added bitterness, as he has thought fit to do.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN publish *The New Testament in Greek* of Westcott and Hort, with Lexicon. This addition by Mr. W. J. Hickie is an excellent idea. Greek words are provided with English renderings; references are added to various passages and usages; and occasional notes as to current mistranslations, e.g. in Acts xxvi. 28, 29. It is said regarding πολυμερῶς, the opening word of Hebrews, that "Westcott omits it." There are no signs of this in the text before us, or among the suspected readings which follow.

The True Chatterton. By John H. Ingram. (Fisher Unwin.)—Mr. Ingram has not succeeded in bringing anything of first-rate importance to light, nor has he written in such a way as to modify the estimate of Chatterton already entertained by sensible people. His claim to have made a new study of original documents is not in question, and there is evidence in his book of diligent and

scrupulous research. He does not convince us, however, that he is qualified by either literary or psychological insight to offer a judgment upon the complex and delicate problems which, so far as there is still disagreement about Chatterton's character, are the only field of dispute.

The Parson's Pleasance. By P. H. Ditchfield. (Mills & Boon.)—Undoubtedly Mr. Ditchfield possesses the pen of a ready writer, and if there is no great depth in his numerous articles, they are at least pleasant reading, and abound in carefully culled gossip from a vast variety of sources. Many will like to have in a permanent form several of the best of the Rector of Barkham's essays, which are here strung together from such different sources as *The Reliquary*, *The Antiquary*, *The Guardian*, *The Treasury*, *Chambers's Journal*, and *The Cornhill Magazine*.

The Story of the Battle of Edington. By the Rev. William H. P. Greswell. (Taunton, Barnicott & Pearce.)—In the eighty pages of this well-printed and well-illustrated book Mr. Greswell has brought together the main features of papers contributed by him during recent years to the *Proceedings* of the Somerset Archaeological Society and other publications. They are here woven into a continuous and interesting narrative of the Danish campaigns which terminated in the battle of Edington and the peace of Wedmore in 878. Several of the debatable points discussed have more than once formed the subject of correspondence in these columns. Mr. Greswell thus concludes his brief Preface:—

"It is a matter of regret that English, and especially Oxford students of the Anglo-Saxon period, have not treated the Alfred campaigns in the thorough and comprehensive spirit displayed by Dr. Reinhold Pauli and Dr. J. M. Lappenberg, or mastered the ancient geography of England with the care of the more modern Dr. W. Reinhard, of Leipzig. Must we trust to German research for light upon the dark periods of our island history?"

Mr. Greswell is of opinion that the joy which thrilled through Wessex after the final overthrow and slaughter of the Danes must have been overwhelming, and he is inclined to refer the origin of Hockday—an institution which still puzzles antiquaries—to the epoch of jubilation which followed the battle of Edington. Spelman and others are agreed that Hockday goes back to some great slaughter of the Danes, but the two dates usually suggested are a victory in the reign of Ethelred on November 13th, 1002, and the death of Hardicanute, which occurred on June 8th, 1042. But Hocktide was always kept *Quindena Pascha*, i.e., the fifteenth day after Easter. It therefore appears that neither of the events just named could have given rise to Hocktide, with its curious traditional customs and rejoicings. The time of the year when Edington was fought was undoubtedly not long after Easter.

Neue Untersuchungen über Platon. By Constantin Ritter. (Munich, Oskar Beck.)—Of the seven studies of Platonism contained in this volume—which extends to over 400 pages—the first five are reprints, with occasional additions, of articles which have already appeared in German periodicals. Three of these are of first-rate importance, consisting as they do of valuable and elaborate discussions and notes on some of the most difficult of the Platonic writings—the 'Sophist,' 'Politicus,' and 'Philebus.'

Among the most interesting points made by Dr. Ritter concerning the 'Sophist' we may notice the following: the flaws in the early *διαίρεσις* which have been observed by critics are not blunders or oversights on the part of the writer, but intentional; it is not until he comes to deal with the *μέγιστα εἶδη* (cc. 40 ff.) that the writer sets about the task of logical division systematically and in earnest. In the much-debated *εἰδὼν φίλοι* Dr. Ritter sees the disciples of earlier Platonism rather than Megarics, except in so far as Megarics may have Platonized; and he holds that the critique of the *εἰδὼν φίλοι* is aimed at misunderstandings of Plato's own earlier statements of his theory. In his exposition of what that theory really signifies Dr. Ritter sides rather with interpreters like Teichmüller and Natorp than with those who rely on the evidence of Aristotle and ascribe to Plato fantastic notions of separate "Begriffs-*realitäten*": he prefers to apply to the Idea such a phrase as "the objective basis of the concept (*Begriff*). In dealing with that difficult passage 248e ff., where motion and life appear to be attributed to absolute existence, Dr. Ritter takes *πανταλως ὄν* to denote not the Ideas, but the sum of existing things, the cosmos, corresponding to the *θεὸς αἰσθητὸς* of the 'Timæus.' Among other passages in the 'Sophist' on which there are useful comments may be mentioned 240b, 244c, 245d, 253d ff.

In the article on the 'Politicus' there are interesting discussions of the question as to the identity of the proposed dialogue 'Philosophos' (257A) and of the meaning of the phrase *ἡ τῆς γενέσεως ἀναγκαία οὐσία* (283D), as well as notes on the use of such terms as *εἶδος*, *ἰδέα*, *φύσις*, *δύναμις*, which serve to supplement the elaborate sixth article, which is wholly devoted to the investigation of these terms.

The article on the 'Philebus' covers nearly 80 pages. Beginning with a useful short analysis of the argument, Dr. Ritter comments in detail on virtually all the more important and difficult passages, including, of course, the doctrine of the four kinds of being (23c ff.) and the final table of goods (86a ff.), which he discusses at considerable length. He holds that none of the four kinds of *ὄντα* is to be identified with the Ideas; and he regards the first three goods as they appear in the final table as equivalent to the three characteristics of *τὰγαθὸν* already determined, *νοῦς* as *αἰτία* representing *ἀλήθεια*. Valuable, too, is the discussion of 15b, where Dr. Ritter, agreeing with Natorp as against Schneider, interprets *λεγόμενα* and *λόγοι* to mean not concepts, but propositions.

In the matter of textual criticism Dr. Ritter tends to be cautious and conservative; he admits, however, in the 'Philebus' Jackson's *τὰ ἐν* (17A), Bury's *πέμπτον τι ὄν* (23D), and Natorp's *σύντρισι* (64A), as well as Heindorf's emendation of 52C; and at 55A he has a correction of his own to offer.

The titles of the remaining articles are 'Timæus c. 1,' 'Sprachstatistik as applied to Plato and Goethe,' 'Εἶδος, ἰδέα, and Kindred Words in the Writings of Plato,' and 'The Letters ascribed to Plato and Speusippus.' Of these the first two are the slightest, but the most readable. The article on *εἶδος*, &c., is an elaborate and exhaustive lexical study which may be commended to the attention of the compilers of the proposed Plato Lexicon. The genuineness of the Platonic Epistles is discussed, with reference mainly to the views of Christ, Unger, and Raeder. Dr. Ritter's conclusion, based on careful analysis of style and sub-

stance, is that virtually all the Epistles, except the 3rd, 7th (in part), 8th, and 10th, are spurious; and the 4th he is inclined to ascribe to Speusippus.

This necessarily brief summary of its contents should be sufficient to show how important a volume this is for the serious student of Plato's later writings. It is the work of a capable scholar who combines erudition with the power of close thinking and clear expression, and it is especially gratifying to find that he makes frequent and appreciative mention of the labours of British scholars in the field upon which he himself has bestowed so much attention. The book is well printed, although typographical errors occur on pp. 173, 234, 236; and there is no Index.

The Edicts of Asoka. Edited in English, with an Introduction and Commentary, by V. A. Smith. (Essex House Press.)—This edition of Asoka's edicts is intended rather for "lovers of dainty books" than for scholars. It is confined to a hundred copies printed on hand-made paper; and a special type has been devised for the text. This seems to the present writer rather a fanciful perversion of the Roman alphabet than a thing of beauty; and its object is not easy to discover, unless, indeed, it is intended as a sort of artistic reflexion of the original scripts. Mr. Vincent Smith's English versions do not claim to possess any independent value. They are simply for the most part translations from the French or German of such scholars as Senart and Bühler. The object of the book, laudable enough in itself, is to provide those "who do not care for antiquarian or philological lore with a readable and accurate version of Asoka's unique sermons and other records in an attractive form." It might, in fact, have been entitled 'Asoka 'cokah' or 'Asoka without Tears.' But it can scarcely be criticized seriously.

General Index to the Names and Subject-Matter of the Sacred Books of the East. Compiled by M. Winternitz. With a Preface by A. A. Macdonell. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)—This volume, the fiftieth and last of the series of "Sacred Books of the East," crowns the great work which the world owes to the scholarly foresight and abounding energy of Max Müller. For the series itself, including as it does translations of the most important scriptures of the chief non-Christian religions of Asia, it may justly be claimed, in the words of Prof. Macdonell, who contributes a preface to the present volume, that it "for the first time placed the historical and comparative study of religions on a solid foundation"; but it seems to have been recognized almost from the first that the vast stores of information thus accumulated could not be used to the best advantage without the aid of an analytical General Index such as has now been supplied by Dr. M. Winternitz, formerly Max Müller's assistant at Oxford, and now Professor of Indian Philology in the German University of Prague.

In preparing this Index Prof. Winternitz has been guided by what appears to be a sound principle, viz., that, for the study of religions at the present time, the great desideratum is "a scientific classification of religious phenomena" rather than the elaboration of ingenious hypotheses. He has, therefore, taken advantage of the present opportunity to produce what should be, so far as possible, a 'Manual of the History of Eastern Religions,' as repre-

sented by the forty-nine volumes of translations of their sacred books. The result is a volume of 683 pages of double columns in which each important topic receives a systematic logical treatment. The bearing of all the different references is explained, and these are conveniently arranged under main and subordinate headings; and wherever a gain in clearness or continuity may be thus obtained, actual quotations from the texts are introduced. Prof. Winternitz has, in fact, supplied a series of admirable résumés from which the student may get a comprehensive view of any particular subject. As illustrations may be quoted the articles devoted to the various divinities, or those dealing with more general topics, such as "animal sacrifices," "future life," "prayers," "soul," &c. Such a work could, manifestly, have been compiled only by a scholar who was himself deeply versed in the languages, literatures, and religions of the East; and students have reason to congratulate themselves that its accomplishment was entrusted to the competent hands of Prof. Winternitz.

MR. DUNCAN CAMPBELL'S *Reminiscences and Reflections of an Octogenarian Highlander* (Inverness, Northern Counties Publishing Company) are principally interesting as recalling conditions of things—in rural Scotland chiefly—which have passed away for ever. Mr. Campbell shows how he became, without any special training for either profession, first a parish schoolmaster and then a journalist. He taught a Perthshire school where he had pupils as old as himself; and he crossed the Tweed for the first time to take up the editorship of *The Bradford Observer* without having had the slightest previous acquaintance with the actual office work of a journalist. Such things can never be again; and Mr. Campbell's long and somewhat rambling account of his career will be read by many with a feeling of mild astonishment, if not of envy.

The school period was comparatively brief. So far as its record here is concerned, its most interesting part was connected with the parish of Balquhider, where the school-house stood within a few yards of Rob Roy's grave, and where reminiscences of the Rev. Robert Kirk, the once-famous minister of the parish, were still fresh. Mr. Andrew Lang has written of Kirk and his book on the fairies, to whom, by the way, Kirk's death was attributed by the common people. Mr. Campbell dwells more particularly on Kirk's first rendering into Gaelic of the Scottish metrical Psalms, but does not mention a quaint incident which we believe to be authentic. During the time he was engaged on the Psalter, Kirk became aware of the intention of the Synod of Argyle to publish a rival translation. Anxious to be first in the field, he sat up the greater part of the night for many months, keeping himself awake by putting a piece of lead in his mouth, with a basin of water in such a position that the lead dropped into it whenever he fell asleep! Mr. Campbell might have mentioned also that Scott published, anonymously, in 1815, an edition of 100 copies of Kirk's book on the fairies, a fact unnoticed by Lockhart.

When the author went to Bradford, "the grim-looking old father" of the Brontës was still living, "like Ossian after the Feinne, in the wind-swept mountain-top parsonage at Haworth"; but it is characteristic of him that he has less to say about the "gifted sisters" than about the disappearance of local features "embalmed" in their novels.

The book is, indeed, more concerned with, and, as is natural, more in praise of, the past than the present. Many pages are devoted to the troubled land question in the Highlands, with censures on the Breadalbane and other evictions. Church "questions" of the 1843 Disruption and later also figure largely. An ardent Highlander, with family and other traditions stretching back to Culloden, the author is yet, for reasons stated, unsympathetic towards the Jacobite movement. Some of his stories of ghosts and second-sight may be commended to the attention of the Psychical Research Society.

Mr. Campbell is surely in error in crediting Menzies of Culladars with the planting of the first larches in Scotland. The dates usually given are 1725 and 1738, the first applying to Dawick, Peeblesshire, the second to Dunkeld. The author is also hazy about the introduction of the potato into Scotland. A book of this kind is seriously defective without an Index.

The Wicker-Work Woman. By Anatole France. Translated by M. P. Willcocks. (John Lane.)—If one reads this book without reference to the 'Mannequin d'Osier,' Miss Willcocks's experience as a writer makes it on the whole a satisfactory and coherent piece of work; but a cursory comparison with its original shows an imperfect acquaintance on her part with French life, French politics, French grammar, and the spirit of the French language. A few examples will be enough. Carnot is represented as the agent of the Panama bribery—"he was distributing largesse at the Palais Bourbon at a rate past checking"; a *mandat* for the Senate is translated "sentence"; a fashionable convent becomes "famous," and visitors to it are met by "the sister who attended to the turnstile," after they have passed, in coming to it, the "small middle-class estates" which are found in Paris inside the Porte Maillot. M. le Préfet de Police, the ruler of Paris, is translated into "a police inspector who has made a mistake," and a farmer's wife keeps a "footman"; *un universitaire fleuri* appears as "a university man with a tendency to the florid."

Catalogue of Books, mostly from the Presses of the First Printers, showing the Progress of Printing with Movable Metal Types through the Second Half of the Fifteenth Century. Collected by Rush C. Hawkins, catalogued by A. W. Pollard, and deposited in the Annmary Brown Memorial at Providence, Rhode Island. (Oxford University Press.)—The title of this volume, interesting as it is to specialists, somewhat masks its value, following in this the modest example set by Proctor in his monumental work on the early printers, issued as 'An Index to the Early Printed Books in the British Museum,' but in reality an exhaustive study of the types and methods of every printer in Europe during the fifteenth century.

The aim of Mr. Pollard in this Catalogue is to show how the art of printing spread through Europe from 1460 to 1500, and to state what is known or believed about the typographical history of the countries, cities, and individual printers whose productions are found in the library. The collection itself is well worthy of this exceptional treatment. For many years its owner has had before him the ideal of a library composed of the first books of the first printers in every town in Europe during the fifteenth century. In some cases this ideal was unattainable, and later volumes from the same press were obtained; but the

measure of success in forming a library representative of the first printers has been unexpectedly great. Mr. Pollard compares it with the British Museum to this effect. From 1460 to 1480 there were 111 towns possessing at some time or other printing presses: the British Museum has examples of 94 of them (usually many different books); General Hawkins has examples from 84. From 1460 to 1500, 238 towns had presses: the British Museum has books from 166 of them; General Hawkins from 141.

The collector has deposited these treasures in a memorial building at Providence, Rhode Island, where some 450 *incunabula* are shown open, affording the visitor as he walks round the room a better conspectus of the growth of printing than can be obtained anywhere else in the world. Five hundred and forty-two *incunabula* are described at length, to each description being prefixed an account of the typographical history of the town at which it was printed, and the printer, the whole being prefaced with an introduction by General Hawkins on the formation of the collection, and another by Mr. Pollard on the printers. Both of these are well worth reading, but the latter is especially valuable as suggesting a number of new lines of inquiry. It is surprising how little we know of the origin and history of any fifteenth-century book. The case of the Lubeck Revelations of St. Bridget (1492) is almost unique in the present writer's experience. We find in the Chronicles of Wadstena on Lake Wetter that on September 27th, 1491, brothers Peter, Ingemar, and Gerard were sent to Lubeck to get them printed, and, after a year had elapsed, returned on November 25th, 1492, with 800 printed and perfect volumes in paper and 16 on vellum. Most of our information about early-printed books is derived from notes inside the covers as to the date of purchase or binding, &c., and, invaluable as they are, leave much to conjecture.

The printing of this Catalogue at the Oxford University Press leaves nothing to be desired, and General Hawkins may be congratulated on so lasting a monument to a life's work.

THE LAST DAYS OF COLERIDGE.

WE publish below part of a chapter from 'The Bright Side of Life,' an autobiography by Dr. George L. Prentiss, which was privately printed (New York, 1903) and circulated among a few friends only. Dr. Prentiss visited Mrs. Gillman in 1842, and made notes of conversations at that time.

In speaking of Coleridge personally and as a member of her family Mrs. Gillman's testimony was to this effect:—

"I do assure you that through all the years he lived with us, I do not remember once to have seen him fretful or out of humor; he was the same kindly, affectionate being from morning till evening, and from January till December. He delighted to reconcile little differences, and to make all things go smoothly and happily. He was always teaching the Beautiful and the Good, while his own daily life was the best illustration of the good and beautiful which he taught. You know how the world sometimes misrepresented and ill-treated him, and he felt it now and then very keenly; but he bore it all with the sweetest patience. As I have said, I never saw him in what could be called an ill-temper during the nineteen years he was under our roof,—never! The servants in the house idolized him; and when he died it seemed as if their hearts would break. We all had one feeling toward him: we all loved him alike, each in our own way; and we all alike wept when he died. Love was the

law of his nature. He clothed his friends, to be sure, in the colors of his own fancy, and sometimes, perhaps, the colors were too bright; but it was his goodness of heart, quite as much as his imagination, that was at fault."

I asked if he was long confined to his bed. She said a month or so.

"I did not see him many times during his last illness—for I had fallen and sprained my thigh, for which, as you see, I have still to use crutches. The night before his death I was carried up to his chamber. He took a brief review of his past life, we conversed together a little while, and then he bade me 'good-bye.' His parting words, as I left the room, were: 'But we shall be one in Christ.' And now," she proceeded, "I must show you a letter that he wrote me, if I can find it." So we walked to the adjoining room, in quest of the letter.

It seemed to have been written either during a temporary absence, or in a moment of illness.

Here is the letter. It was written some time in 1830.

DEAR MRS. GILLMAN,—Wife of the friend who has become more than brother to me, and who have month after month, year after year, for how many successive years, united in yourself the affections and offices of an anxious friend and tender sister to me—ward!

May the Father of Mercies, the God of Health and all Salvation, be your reward for your great and constant love and loving kindness to me, abiding with you and within you, as the Spirit of guidance, support, and consolation! And may his Grace and gracious Providence bless James and Henry for your sake, and make them a blessing to you and their father! And though weighed down by a heavy presentiment respecting my own sojourn here, I not only hope, but have a steadfast faith, that God will be your reward, because your love to me from first to last has begun in, and been caused by, what appeared to you a transience of the love of the good, the true, and the beautiful from within me,—as a relic of glory gleaming through the turbid shrine of my mortal imperfections and infirmities, as a Light of Life seen within "the body of this Death,"—because in loving me you loved our Heavenly Father reflected in the gifts and influence of His Holy Spirit! S. T. COLERIDGE.

Before I left she (Mrs. Gillman) gave me a sprig from Coleridge's myrtle, concerning which she related this anecdote: The myrtle was a special favourite of Coleridge. He tended it during his last sickness; and only a few hours before his death, after he had bidden all his friends, except Mr. Green and Dr. Gillman, to leave the room, he requested that it might be brought to him. It was on the eve of blooming, and the dying poet, as it was placed at his bedside, watched it long and wistfully, as if there were a secret sympathy between the soul of the plant about to burst forth into light and his own soul just bursting forth into immortality. Be that as it may, scarcely had he ceased to breathe, when, of a sudden, the myrtle, as if touched with inward joy, bloomed and filled the chamber with its fragrance!

This myrtle was a gift of Mrs. Gillman, and here is a letter which he wrote to her on receiving it:—

May 3, 1827.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I received and acknowledge your this morning's present both as plant and symbol, and with appropriate thanks and correspondent feelings. The rose is the pride of summer, the delight and beauty of our gardens; the eglantine, the honeysuckle, and the jasmine, if not so bright or so ambrosial, are less transient, creep nearer to us, clothe our walls, twine over our porch, and haply peep in at our chamber window, with the crested wren or linnet within the tufts wishing good morning to us. Lastly, the geranium passes the door, and in its hundred varieties, imitating now this, now that leaf, odor, blossom of the garden, still steadily retains its own staid character, its own sober and refreshing hue and fragrance. It deserves to be the inmate of the house, and with due attention and tenderness will live through the winter, grave yet cheerful, as an old family friend, that makes up for the departure of gayer visitors in the leafless season. But none of these are the *myrtle*! In none of these, nor in all collectively, will the *myrtle* find a substitute. All together and joining with them all the aroma, the spices and the balsams of the hothouse, yet would they be a sad exchange for the *myrtle*. Oh, precious in its sweetness is the *rich* innocence of its snow-white blossoms. And dear are they in the remembrance; but these may pass with the season, and while the myrtle plant, our own myrtle plant, remains unchanged, its blossoms are remembered

the more to endear the faithful bearer; yea, they survive invisibly in every more than fragrant leaf. As the flashing strains of the nightingale to the yearning murmurs of the dove, so the myrtle to the rose! He who has once possessed and prized a genuine myrtle will rather remember it under the cypress tree than seek to forget it among the rose bushes of a paradise.

God bless you, my dearest friend, and be assured that if death do not suspend memory and consciousness, death itself will not deprive you of a faithful participator in all your hopes and fears, affections and solicitudes, in your unalterable
S. T. COLERIDGE.

COPYRIGHT IN LETTERS: A FRENCH VIEW.

THE *Mercur de France* of the 16th inst. has an interesting note on a decision of the Court of Appeal of Paris of July 13th "qui crée une jurisprudence nouvelle sur la propriété des lettres missives." Hitherto it was supposed in France that a tacit abandonment by the author of his rights could be deduced from certain circumstances; for instance, the fact that he had not kept a rough copy or duplicate of his letters. Apparently, it was argued, he had abandoned all thought of publishing these letters, since he did not reserve for himself the means to do so. This argument the *Mercur* describes as "assez logique," and welcomes its results as a check on the excessive severity of the law. This view was taken of the correspondence of George Sand, Sainte-Beuve, and Lacordaire.

Now, it is stated, the Court of Appeal is returning to a more rigorous application of the law. It declares that the abandonment by the author of his rights cannot be presumed in this way, but must be formal. The absence of a rough copy proves nothing:

"Y attacher une importance aboutirait à donner à l'épistolier qui compose péniblement, cherche ses phrases, un traitement plus favorable qu'à celui qui écrit facilement, sans avoir besoin de faire un brouillon."

This decision from a literary point of view will be generally applauded. The very fact that letters are not written and rewritten, that we see the writer at his ease and expressing himself with a freedom of style and thought which the idea of publication would modify, renders such documents of special interest. Authors are proverbially careless, and those who are in any way concerned as to the possible publication of their letters should make a definite statement of their wishes in their wills. This has, we believe, been increasingly done of late years.

On the other hand, the special case considered by the French court is one on which there is much to be said for the views of the *Mercur*. M. Chambon, an erudite man of letters, thought he was doing honour to the memory of Mérimée, and a service to the admirers of that writer, by collecting his unpublished letters.

"L'héritière de Mérimée surgit et interdit cette publication. Pourquoi? Elle ne le dit pas. Cela ne lui plait pas, voilà tout, et la loi la dispense de donner ses raisons; elle est maîtresse absolue de l'œuvre de Mérimée."

No one could object if this refusal proceeded from the person or persons to whom Mérimée left his rights; but this is not so. It proceeds from

"une dame Hémon, absolument étrangère à Mérimée, et que celui-ci n'a probablement jamais connue. Mérimée, en mourant, a institué pour ses légataires universelles deux vieilles Anglaises qui ensuite choisirent comme héritière cette dame Hémon. Et c'est ainsi que Mme. Hémon est propriétaire de l'œuvre littéraire de Mérimée."

The *Mercur* concludes from this case that the rights of heirs and authors' representatives ought to be restricted when they rest on "le hasard des transmissions successorales."

This case recalls that concerning the letters of Charles Lamb (*Macmillan v. Dent*) which was carried to the Court of Appeal, and discussed by an expert in our columns on December 8th, 1906. It was complicated by further difficulties not attached to the letters of Mérimée, but included the claim of an administrator as representing executors long since dead.

THE SHORT STORY.

Yale University, August 9, 1910.

ALL those interested in the fate of so interesting an art as that of the short story must have been gratified by the onslaught in a recent *Athenæum* upon the high gods of reward and those who serve them too obsequiously. But in offering Scott's 'Wandering Willie's Tale' as a model does not the author of the aforesaid article partake a little of the error of those dramatic critics who propose the Elizabethan tragedy for our imitation?

That Scott in this narrative was a master of the short story one gladly admits. Nevertheless, the interest in situation rather than plot which characterizes, and must inevitably characterize, so many of our short-story writers can seldom, it would seem, avail itself of his direct and simple method, a method which was Irving's and Chaucer's, but not Poe's, Henry James's, or Kipling's. To get the single effect which the short story demands, whether from one or more incidents or from a situation, a different means is often useful, sometimes necessary. The masters of the short story, from Poe upward, have been desirous of leaving a single, vivid impression upon their readers. With them plot has been but a means to their end. They have thrown the emphasis upon the climax in their stories in order to make certain that the effect of the whole should be clear and vivid; and a technical method very different from Scott's has resulted. The simple *conte* is an admirable form of the short story. Writers who can achieve it in English should be welcome, for perfect examples have been rare in our literature. But surely, if we are to choose models for those who have gone astray, it is foolish to ignore a new variety of the short story which in the hands of the masters has shown an especial adaptability to the narrative material of modern life.

HENRY SEIDEL CANBY.

** Our correspondent speaks of Scott's "direct and simple method." If he will look at Dr. Verrall's study of the Tale in *The Quarterly*, he will find Scott credited with a subtlety in narration which is anything but simple.

DICKENS AND SOUTHAMPTON.

MINUTE as is the study of Dickens nowadays, a peculiarity attaching to one of the original illustrations to 'The Old Curiosity Shop' has hitherto, I believe, escaped notice. The illustration, in chap. xxvii., is that which depicts Little Nell hiding from Quilp in the shadow of "the old gateway" of the town honoured by Mrs. Jarley's "calm and classical" entertainment, and the gateway itself is unmistakably the

Bargate at Southampton. This flight of fancy on the part of the artist (H. K. Browne) will scarcely, however, give rise to any novel theories as to the "original" of the city of Miss Monflathers and Mr. Slum. Opinions may differ as to the claims of Coventry in this respect, but to deflect the course of Nell's wanderings so as to include Southampton is too "toomultuous" a proceeding altogether, and one for which, moreover, the text contains not a shred of justification.

It is perhaps worth remarking that in all the range of Dickens's novels there are but two allusions to Southampton, and those of the briefest, in 'Nicholas Nickleby' and 'Dombey and Son' respectively.

R. G. P.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Baptist Churches of Lancashire, 2/6 net.
Edited by A. H. Stockwell.
Funk (F. X.), A Manual of Church History, Vol. II., 10/
Paster (Dr. Ludwig), The History of the Popes from the Close of the Middle Ages, Vol. IX., 12/ net.
Drawn from the archives of the Vatican and other original sources. Edited by Ralph Francis Kerr.
Schuyler (H. C.), The Courage of Christ, 2/6 net.

Law.

- Beelenkamp (C. J.), Les Lois Postales Universelles, 17/6 net.
Devonshire (G. H.) and Samuel (F.), Duties on Land Values, 20/
Dunstan (R.), The Law relating to the Hire-Purchase System, 6/
Evans (D. O.) and Barton (W. A.), The Land and Mineral Taxes of the Finance 1909-10 Act, 15/
Irish Forms and Precedents, 27/6 net.
Edited by W. C. Stubbs and J. S. Baxter.
Wrottesley (F. J.), The Examination of Witnesses in Court, 5/ net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Budge (E. A. Wallis), The Chapters of Coming Forth by Day; or, The Theban Recension of the Book of the Dead, 3 vols., 5/ each net.
Egyptian text, translation, and vocabulary. In Books on Egypt and Chaldea.
Catalogue Raisonné of the Works of the Most Eminent Dutch Painters of the Seventeenth Century, based on the Work of J. Smith by C. H. de Groot. Vol. III., 25/ net.
Translated and edited by E. G. Hawke.
Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets. Parts 27 and 28, 7/6 net each.
Issued by the British Museum, 150 plates in each part.
Evans (J. T.), The Church Plate of Radnorshire, 21/
With chantry certificates relating to the county of Radnor; notes on registers, bells, and families; and Appendix on the Primitive Saints of Radnorshire by the Rev. A. W. Wade-Evans.
Graphic Arts Year-Book, 1910, 21/ net.
Leeds (Herbert), Norwich Cathedral, Past and Present, 2/6 net.
With biographical sketch of the Dean of Norwich.
Lund (T. W. M.), The Lake of Como: its History, Art, and Archaeology, 5/ net.
Old Sarum, Report of the Excavation Committee to the Society of Antiquaries for 1909.
See p. 247.
Essex Archaeological Society Transactions, Vol. XI., Part IV., 6/
Vinall (J. W. T.), A Course of Drawings for the Standards, 6/ net; Natural and Common Objects in Primary Drawing, 3/ net.

Poetry and Drama.

- Cambridge History of English Literature: Vols. V. and VI. The Drama to 1642, 9/ each.
Collins (John Churton), Greek Influence on English Poetry, 3/6 net.
The lectures delivered by the author at the University of Birmingham are published for the first time in this posthumous volume.

Dryden's *Æneid* of Virgil, 2/ net.

Edited with an introduction by Prof. A. J. Church, with 18 full-page illustrations by Wal Paget.

Wilde (Oscar), *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*, 1/ net.

Popular edition, with shorter version at the end based on the original draft of the poem.

Music.

Gehring (A.), *The Basis of Musical Pleasure*, 7/6 net.

Mours (E. J.) and Bouyer (A.) fils, *The Abuse of the Singing and Speaking Voice*.

Translated by Macleod Yearsley. Deals with the causes, effects, and treatment of the abuse of the voice.

Bibliography.

Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851.

Edited by Porter Garnett for the Academy of Pacific Coast History.

Westminster Public Libraries, Report of the Committee for the year 1909-10.

History and Biography.

Bagehot (Walter), *The English Constitution*. One of Nelson's Shilling Library.

Carrington (F. C.), *My Army Life and the Fort Phil Kearney Massacre, with an Account of the Celebration of "Wyoming Opened,"* 7/6 net.

Chippindall (Col. W. H.), *Memoirs of Lieut.-Col. Samuel Gledhill*, 7/6 net.

Feet of Fines for Essex: Part X. General Index. Jones (C. H.), *The Life and Public Services of J. Glancy Jones*, 2 vols., 28/ net.

Lolée (Frédéric), *Le Duc de Morny, the Brother of an Emperor and the Maker of an Empire*, 12/6 net.

Adapted by Bryan O'Donnell, with photographic portrait and 22 other portraits.

Maycock (Capt. F. W. O.), *Napoleon's European Campaigns, 1796-1815*, 5/ net.

A concise outline, illustrated with 23 maps and plans.

Old-Lore Miscellany of Orkney, Shetland, Caithness, and Sutherland, July, 10/6 a year.

Waring (L. H.), *The Political Theories of Martin Luther*, 7/6 net.

Geography and Travel.

Arnold-Bemrose (H. H.), *Derbyshire*, 1/6 net.

One of the Cambridge County Geographies. Has two coloured maps, and illustrations.

Creswell (Beatrice F.), *Where to Stay in the West Country: Vol. I. The Section of the West Country served by the London and South-Western Railway*, 1/ net.

New edition. One of the Homeland Reference Books.

Practical Swiss Guide, 1910, 4/ net.

One of the Practical Guides for Tourists.

Sports and Pastimes.

Dewar (George A. B.), *The Book of the Dry Fly*, 7/6 net.

A new and enlarged edition, containing 8 full-page illustrations in colour. For notice of first edition see *Athen.*, May 8, 1897, p. 608.

Folk-lore and Anthropology.

Ebbutt (M. I.), *Hero-Myths and Legends of the British Race*, 7/6 net.

Philology.

Rhys (Sir John), *Notes on the Coligny Calendar, together with an Edition of the Reconstructed Calendar*, 10/6 net.

From the *Proceedings of the British Academy*.

School-Books.

Reynolds (J. B.), *Great Britain and Ireland*, 1/4 net.

One of the Elementary Regional Geography Series, containing 83 illustrations, maps, and diagrams.

Science.

Bardeen (C. R.) and others, *Manual of Human Embryology*, Vol. I., 30/ net.

Edited by F. Keibel and F. P. Mall.

Brewer (I. W.), *Rural Hygiene*, 4/6 net.

A handbook of sanitation.

Burrage (W. L.), *Gynecological Diagnosis*, 25/ net.

Christy (Miller) and Thresh (Miss May), *A History of the Mineral Waters and Medicinal Springs of the County of Essex*, 2/6 net.

A paper read before a meeting of the Essex Field Club in November, 1907, with a critical note by W. H. Dalton, and 7 illustrations.

Swell (Arthur), *A Textbook of Physical Chemistry, Theory and Practice*, 9/6 net.

Hillier (Sydney), *Popular Drugs: their Use and Abuse*, 3/6 net.

The writer deals specially with alcohol, opium, tobacco, and veronal.

Hodgins (J. E.) and Haskett (T. H.), *Diseases of Live Stock*, 10/6 net.

A practical handbook for farmers and stock-owners.

Hoxie (G. H.), *Symptomatic and Regional Therapeutics*, 16/ net.

Macnamara (N. C.), *The Evolution and Function of Living Purposive Matter*, 5/ net.

A volume of the International Scientific Series. The work endeavours to explain the evolution of, and the functions performed by, those elements of protoplasm which are essential for the manifestation of purposive, instinctive, and psychical phenomena. Illustrated.

McClung (R. K.), *Conduction of Electricity through Gases and Radio-Activity*, 7/6 net.

Morrell (C. Conyers), *The Death-dealing Insects and their Story*, 1/ net.

Intended for the general reader, and deals with recent discoveries in tropical medicine and sanitation.

Smithsonian Institution: Contributions from the U.S. National Herbarium: Vol. 13, Part 3, *The Grasses of Alaska*, by F. Lamson-Scribner and Elmer D. Merrill; Part 4, *New or Noteworthy Plants from Colombia and Central America*, by Henry Pittier; Part 5, *Relationships of the Ivory Palms*, by O. F. Cook; Vol. 14, Part 1, *The Lichens of Minnesota*, by Bruce Fink.

Smithsonian Institution: U.S. National Museum, Bulletin 71, *A Monograph of the Foraminifera of the North Pacific Ocean: Part I. Astrothizidae and Lituolidae*, by Joseph Augustine Cushman.

Syllabus of Mathematics for the Austrian Gymnasium.

No. 22 of the Board of Education Pamphlets. Transvaal Agricultural Journal, Vol. VIII. No. 32. Issued quarterly.

Wasmann (Erich), S.J., *Modern Biology and the Theory of Evolution*, 16/ net.

Translated from the third German edition by A. M. Buchanan.

Wright (William H.), *The Black Bear*, 6/ net.

Well illustrated.

Juvenile Books.

Davidson (Gladys), *The Old Testament Story*, 6/ net.

Bible story book for children beyond the nursery age, with 16 illustrations from Old Masters.

Potter (Beatrice), *The Tale of Mrs. Tittlemouse*, 1/ net.

One of the author's excellent story books for children.

Ricketts (Henry C.), *Chats with the Boy Scouts*, 2d.

Short talks on such subjects as prayer, Sunday, swearing, &c.

Fiction.

Alcott (L. M.), *Little Women*.

In Nelson's Sixpenny Classics.

Bowen (Marjorie), *The Sword Decides*, 1/ net.

Founded on the story of Giovanna of Naples. New edition, with frontispiece by H. M. Brock.

Buchan (John), *Prester John*, 2/ net.

A young Scot goes out to South Africa and has many adventures, in which Kaffirs, a clerical villain, and diamonds are concerned.

The book is badly bound, for several pages come out as soon as we open it.

Campbell (Mrs. Vere), *For No Man Knoweth*, 6/ net.

The story centres in an artist's love-affairs.

Cole (Sophie), *Blue Grey Magic*, 6/ net.

A love-story with a happy ending. The "Magic" in question refers to some mysterious letters sent to a girl.

Davis (Yorke), *The Green Cloak*, 6/ net.

A story of crime and adventure.

Devereux (William) and Lovell (Stephen), *Sir Walter Raleigh: an Historical Romance*, 1/ net.

Popular edition of a story well known on the stage.

Francis (M. E.), *The Tender Passion*, 6/ net.

Short stories.

Kingsley (Florence Morse), *The Star of Love*, 6/ net.

A new rendering of the story of Esther and Mordecai.

Knight (M.), *Did Cupid Count?* 6/ net.

Follows the fortunes of girls of different types, and chiefly a frivolous and spoilt beauty.

Orczy (Baroness), *Lady Molly of Scotland Yard*, 6/ net.

Deals with various mysteries, and has 16 full-page illustrations.

Ramsay (R.), *Barnaby*, 6/ net.

A story of marriage and impersonation.

Vaughan-Sawyer (H.), *Sport of Gods*, 6/ net.

The background varies from England to India.

Watson (E. H. Lacon), *Barker's*, 6/ net.

A study of journalistic ventures from within.

Whitehouse (F. Cowley), *Allah the Avenger*, 6/ net.

An Eastern story in which several of the incidents are founded on fact.

General Literature.

Colchester, Report of the Museum and Monument Committee for the Year ended March 31, 1910.

Collingwood (W. G.), *Dutch Agnes, her Valentine: being the Journal of the Curate of Coniston*, 1616-23.

An historical picture rather than a novel. The outline is fact, the shading inference, and the colouring imaginative.

Fitzpatrick (J.), *Book-keeping, specially adapted for Public Companies*.

Hamlicar (Marcia), *Legally Dead*, 5/ net.

Depicts the writer's experiences during seventeen weeks' detention in a private asylum, with an introduction by Dr. Forbes Winslow.

Kendal Penny Cookery Book.

Compiled by Miss J. Cowx for the Borough of Kendal Education Committee.

Muirhead (Capt. Murray), *Synopsis of the Field Service Regulations*, 1/6 net.

Intended for examination purposes.

Pamphlets.

Irish Landowners' Convention, Twenty-Fifth Report.

Tales of the Tariff Trippers: an Exposure of the Tariff Reform Tours in Germany, 1d.

FOREIGN.

Philology.

Whiteley (John Harold), *Étude sur la Langue et le Style de Leconte de Lisle*, 5f.

A thesis which gained for the English author the degree of Docteur ès Lettres from the Université de France.

Pamphlets.

Escoffier (A.), *Projet d'Assistance mutuelle pour l'Extinction du Paupérisme*, 0fr. 50.

*** All books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending books.

Literary Gossip.

THE MARQUESS OF DALHOUSIE, Governor-General of India 1848-56, forbade the publication of his private papers until fifty years after his death. That period having now elapsed, Messrs. Blackwood will publish early in October 'The Private Letters of the Marquess of Dalhousie.' The letters were written by Lord Dalhousie to Sir George Couper, his oldest friend. He and Lord Panmure were Dalhousie's most favoured correspondents. A letter of September 18th, 1849, contains the following passage:—

"I write to you and Fox Maule—my oldest friend, my nearest kinsman. I have already told you I keep you as a safety valve, through which I have a right to blow off feelings which I can express to no one in India but my wife, and do express to no one in Europe but your two selves."

MESSRS. CONSTABLE are publishing this autumn 'The Japanese Letters of Lafcadio Hearn,' edited by Elizabeth Bisland; 'The Digressions of V.,' a book of reminiscences by Mr. E. H. Vedder, which is illustrated by his own hand; and 'Pages from the Book of Paris,' by Mr. C. C. Washburn and Mr. L. G. Hornby, two young Americans, one a writer, the other an artist.

In philosophy the same firm promise 'Looking Facts in the Face,' by St. George

Stock, a series of essays; and "Philosophies, Ancient and Modern," concise manuals dealing with Nietzsche, Epicurus, and Swedenborg.

AN historical document of considerable interest has been discovered in the Archbishop's Library, Lambeth. It is King James's copy of "An humble Supplication for Toleration" addressed to his Majesty by the deprived ministers, and contains the King's private notes, in his own handwriting, on various points. It is the subject of an article in *Blackwood's Magazine* for September. Another article is the narrative of Sir Henry Light's experiences as an Artillery officer with the disastrous expedition to Walcheren in 1809.

A BOOK of varied interest which Messrs. Chatto & Windus announce is 'From Constable to Commissioner: the Story of Sixty Years, most of them Misspent,' by Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Smith. The author claims to have special information concerning people so different as R. L. Stevenson and Jack the Ripper.

THE same publishers have in hand 'The Noise of Life,' by Mr. Christopher Stone, a story which deals with the return of a poet who is a confirmed opium-eater to his family and friends.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS have also in hand 'Old Kensington Palace, and other Papers,' representing work done by Mr. Austin Dobson within the last two years; 'The Airy Way,' a book by Mr. G. A. B. Dewar which includes much observation of birds; and a book on 'Curiosities in Clubs,' by Mr. Ralph Nevill.

THEY are, further, publishing some well-known books with new pictures. Mr. Gordon Browne is illustrating Bowring's version of Chamisso's 'Peter Schlemihl'; Miss Maria L. Kirk, Ouida's 'A Dog of Flanders, The Nürnberg Store, and other Stories'; and Mr. Harrison Fisher, in combination with Mr. Arthur L. Keller, Bret Harte's 'Salomy Jane.'

IN view of the centenary of Mrs. Gaskell, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons will publish immediately 'Mrs. Gaskell: Haunts, Homes, and Stories.' The author is Mrs. Ellis H. Chadwick, who has adopted the plan of following Mrs. Gaskell, as it were, from place to place for the background of the stories.

MESSRS. PUTNAM will publish this season 'Islam Dands: the Soudan, Egypt, Tunisia, and Algeria,' by Mr. M. M. Shoemaker; 'Controversial Ground in Scottish History,' a study of the early chroniclers and modern historians, by Mr. W. H. Gregg; and 'The Political Theories of Martin Luther,' by Dr. L. H. Waring.

MESSRS. SKEFFINGTON are publishing a profusely illustrated book on the island

of Tristan da Cunha. It is written by Mrs. Barrow, wife of the missionary chaplain there, and describes fully the island itself, its population, industries, method of life, &c.

MR. MAURICE HEWLETT's new novel, 'Rest Harrow,' will be published by Messrs Macmillan & Co. on September 16th. It forms a sequel to 'Open Country,' and recounts the further history of Sanchia Percival and John Senhouse.

'HEARTS AND CORONETS,' a new story by Mrs. Wilson Fox, will be issued by the same firm on September 23rd.

TO the September issue of *Chambers's Journal* Mr. Edward Marston, the veteran publisher, contributes a paper on 'Sleeplessness: an Old Man's Noctuary'; Mr. Edwin Lester Arnold in 'From the Deep Sea' describes a house in London containing a gathering of all kinds of curious articles which have belonged to seamen or ships; and Mr. Hugh Childers writes on 'The Burning of the Houses of Parliament' in 1834. Other articles are 'The London Docker'; '203 Metre Hill,' describing the celebrated battle-field near Port Arthur; and 'The Abuse of the Camera.'

MR. BECKLES WILLSON has been for some time absent in Nova Scotia with a view to writing a book on that interesting province which Messrs. Constable will publish. From Louisbourg Mr. Beckles Willson has addressed a letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, calling his attention to the present condition of that once-famous stronghold, and asking that the site be taken into the custody of the Canadian Battle-fields Commission. The proposal has met with strong local support.

MR. LEE WARNER will shortly issue an edition of 'Thyrsis' and 'The Scholar-Gipsy,' with ten coloured plates after water-colours by Mr. W. Russell Flint. Seven of the plates are sketches direct from scenes mentioned in the poems. Besides the ordinary edition, 100 copies on real Japanese vellum will be printed, each signed by the artist.

THE new books in the Florence Press type issued by Messrs. Chatto & Windus will be Stevenson's 'Virginibus Puerisque, and other Essays,' with twelve illustrations after drawings by Mr. Norman Wilkinson; and 'Sappho,' one hundred lyrics by Mr. Bliss Carman. The latter will be the first volume of a cheaper series, smaller in form, with a binding in boards and also in parchment.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD will publish in the autumn two minor philosophical works—'The Fundamental Problems of Metaphysics' and 'The Psychology of Belief'—by the Rev. Dr. James Lindsay, whose large volume of 'Studies in European Philosophy' was favourably received.

MR. ARTHUR E. BAKER, Librarian of the Public Library, Taunton, has nearly ready

for publication 'A Complete Concordance to the Poetical Works of Tennyson,' upon which he has been engaged assiduously for many years. It will comprise approximately 500 pages (two columns to the page), with 87,000 quotations.

AMONG the new fiction promised by Messrs. Constable is 'The Creators,' by Miss May Sinclair; 'The Silver Barrier,' by Mr. Edward Noble; 'The Long Roll,' by Miss Mary Johnston; and 'The Land of his Fathers,' by Mr. A. J. Dawson.

ANOTHER Indian story by Mrs. F. E. Penny will be published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus early in September. It is to be called 'Sacrifice,' and will deal with the ancient custom of human sacrifice to propitiate the Earth goddess, which was till recent times followed by the hill tribes of Ganjam, in the northern part of the Presidency of Madras.

MR. H. G. T. CANNONS, Borough Librarian of Finsbury, has in the press a 'Bibliography of Periodical Literature relating to Library Economy, Printing, Methods of Publishing, Copyright, Bibliography, &c.'

THE DEAN OF LINCOLN, Dr. Edward Charles Wickham, whose death was reported after we went to press last week, was well known for his standard edition of Horace. He also published 'Wellington College Sermons,' which he delivered as head master of the school, 1873-93.

THE obituary of last week also includes Mr. Albert Masey, who had been editor of *The Outlook* since 1906, and had a long experience of journalism, being assistant editor of *The Globe*, 1866-80, and engaged on *The Standard* from 1881 till 1905.

MR. LOCKE ELLIS announces the first issue, on October 5th, of a literary and artistic monthly, *The Open Window*.

MR. JOHN GRANT of Edinburgh will publish shortly a third revised and cheaper edition of Mr. T. F. Henderson's 'History of Scottish Vernacular Literature,' of which the first issue appeared in 1898. The book treats of the distinctive national literature of Scotland from the earliest times down to Allan Cunningham, illustrated by characteristic examples.

THE Archimandrite of the Greek Orthodox Church in Melbourne, Dr. Papaconstantinos, has written a small treatise on the Arian and Sabellian controversies, under the title of 'The Creed of Athanasius the Great.' It will shortly be published by the Melville & Mullen Proprietary of Melbourne, and London.

THE death is announced from Freiburg im Breisgau of Dr. Julius Neumann, late Professor of Political Economy at Tübingen, and author of several works, among them 'Progressive Einkommensteuer' and 'Grundlagen der Volkswirtschaftslehre.'

SCIENCE

A Treatise on Electrical Theory and the Problem of the Universe. By G. W. de Tunzelmann. (Griffin & Co.)

In this closely printed volume of some six hundred and fifty pages Mr. de Tunzelmann aims at giving an account, without "experimental details" or drawings of apparatus, of the advance of the study of electricity during the last half-century, and its bearing upon such important subjects as the constitution of matter, the luminiferous ether, and the life-history of the universe. That there is room for such a book there can be no doubt, and Mr. de Tunzelmann appears in many respects well qualified to write it. He apparently has read, with equal intelligence and care, the principal memoirs on the subject that have appeared in the proceedings of the various learned societies in Europe and America, and possesses a fairly accurate judgment in distinguishing those which have a permanent from those with merely an ephemeral value. He is also quick to note the theories which throw new light upon vexed questions, even when they appear destructive of the view held by the most orthodox thinkers in scientific matters. Thus we are glad to find him noticing the thesis of Prof. Bragg which would make the X or Röntgen rays streams of neutral particles or doublets rather than the ether-pulses of Stokes and Sir Joseph Thomson. That he is sufficiently up-to-date can be judged from his quotation of Sir Joseph Thomson's admission last year at Winnipeg that there is now experimental evidence of the existence of positive electrons—a position which, readers of *The Athenæum* may remember, was taken up in these columns three years ago (see Nos. 4147, 4156, &c.). The author's definitions, too, of which he is not sparing, are in many instances clear, and show a real grip of the subject.

It is not, therefore, from any lack of qualification that the author has failed, as perhaps everybody must fail at present, in producing a perfect book on the new views on electricity. Rather is it from not keeping steadily before him the needs of those to whom it is addressed. He tells us in his Preface that he intends it to be of use to "a wider range of physical students" than those "familiar with modern mathematical analysis," and that he hopes it will give the electrical engineer "sufficiently clear physical concepts of the actions in the electromagnetic field to enable him to apply them to the design of electrical apparatus and machinery"; while he has taken the trouble to distinguish by an asterisk those chapters (more than three-fifths of the whole book) which he considers fit for the perusal of the general

reader. Yet it is doubtful whether that capricious person will derive much benefit from the pains taken, unless he happens to be one of those whom Prof. Armstrong calls the "mathematically-minded." Thus the "Hall effect," displayed when an electric current moving through a strip of metal placed between the poles of a powerful magnet is deflected to one side if the strip be of bismuth, gold, or copper, and to the other if of iron, zinc, or antimony, is a paradox explicable by the assumption that in the one case it is the negative electrons which move, and in the other the positive (see *Athenæum*, No. 4105). In Mr. de Tunzelmann's book this appears as:—

"[If the strip be of a paramagnetic metal] the expression for the Hall effect would consist of two terms of opposite sign, one arising from the deflections of the electrons by the external field during their free paths, and the other from their deflections by the molecules during their collisions. If the substance of the conductor were diamagnetic, the two terms would, on the other hand, be of the same sign, the magnetic action of the molecules during the collisions being in the same direction as that of the external field."

Is not this to make obscure what is otherwise clear enough?

Another reason why Mr. de Tunzelmann's book is less helpful than it at first sight appears that it ought to be is that it is written throughout with a metaphysical preoccupation of a very decided kind. The last chapter, to which all the others confessedly lead up, deals with 'The Place of Mind in the Universe,' or, in other words, with the demonstration of the existence of a guiding intelligence outside of it, as opposed to the frank materialism of Haeckel. In Mr. de Tunzelmann's own words:—

"The ultimate reality of Hegel, which is now seen to be identical with that indicated by modern science [our italics], consists in a self-determining unity which reconciles and includes within itself all the diversities and apparent contradictions of both Intelligence and Nature. In place of relativity being excluded from the Absolute, all relativity is included within it, but the sphere of its relations is entirely contained within itself and determined by itself."

We are not in the least concerned to challenge the proposition; but the truth of the passage we have italicized seems to us by no means self-evident, and the effort to establish it not only adds enormously to the length, but, in our opinion, lessens the value, of what would otherwise be a very useful book. The enunciation of an *Ars Dullia*, by which the existence of God is made a matter of mathematical demonstration, is a little out of date at the present day; and the object of a man of science should be to bring out the whole truth, rather than the truth only so far as it supports certain ideas formed on a priori grounds. Faraday's remark, when asked how he reconciled his religion with his scientific views, that he kept his mind in watertight compartments, was dictated by a sounder view of the domains of physics and metaphysics than the present author's.

SMALL BOOKS ON SCIENCE.

Radio-Chemistry. By A. T. Cameron. (Dent & Sons.)—Mr. Cameron is well known to physicists as the collaborator with Sir William Ramsay in some of his most interesting experiments on the radium emanation which we are now to call niton (see Research Notes), and he has certainly earned the right to be heard on the subject of his book. As will be gathered from his title, he addresses himself particularly to the chemical side of the question, and gives in convenient form a summary of the results obtained by himself and other investigators on such points as the life-period of radium, its atomic weight, its chemical effects, and its production of helium. In most of these matters he is in agreement with the views of Sir William Ramsay, and inclines, for instance, to the conclusion that the atomic weight of niton is 222, which is fairly near the result attained by Sir William and Dr. Gray. He accepts, as every one seems to do nowadays, Prof. Rutherford's demonstration that the Alpha particle is an atom of helium, and holds it to be "definitely established" that it bears a double charge of positive electricity. He also gives a very clear and candid account of the "transmutation" experiments of Sir William Ramsay and himself on the one side, and of Madame Curie and Mlle. Gleditsch on the other, and holds that with the quantities of niton hitherto at the disposal of investigators, it is useless to seek for any conclusion with regard to the discrepancy of the results. His general view of the whole transmutation theory is that uranium is the parent of all the highly radio-active substances, and that lead is their final product. The book can be commended as a successful attempt to put the result of the recent discoveries into a handy form intelligible to the general reader. A great part of it originally appeared in *Science Progress*.

The Elements: Speculations as to their Nature and Origin. By Sir William A. Tilden. (Harper & Brothers.)—This book, which forms one of the series styled by its publishers "The Library of Living Thought," seems to have had its conception in the fact that the author was chosen to deliver the Mendeléeff Memorial Lecture in October last. Sir William Tilden tells us in his Preface that he collected on that occasion a number of hypotheses with regard to the interrelation of the elements, which he thought it inappropriate to introduce into a lecture dealing with the great discoverer of the Periodic Law, to whom they would have been most repugnant, while at the same time many of them are of interest to the general public. He puts the matter as briefly as possible when he quotes Mendeléeff's own words that the properties of the elements, together with the forms and properties of these compounds, are in periodic dependence on, or (in algebraic language) are a periodic function of, their atomic weights; and he explains with great clearness and conciseness what this implies. In the course of this he reproduces Sir William Crookes's little-known "figure of 8" model, as well as a great number of diagrams by other authors; but we are sorry that he did not see his way to include Dr. Johnstone Stoney's spiral, which has many advantages over some of those here given. Perhaps this omission is due to the author's evident leaning to the theory of Dr. James Moir, put forward so recently as November of last year, which would make the cause of valency in an ele-

ment the presence in it, in varying proportions, of a sub-element of atomic weight less than unity, or more specifically ·0089. As he says, the numerical results of this are more satisfactory than those of most earlier theories; but the true nature of valency, or the capacity of the elemental atom to associate with other atoms, still escapes us, and it is very doubtful whether it can ever be determined on merely chemical grounds.

The conclusion that the author draws from the speculations here summarized is that

"it seems probable that the chemical elements, and hence all material substances of which the earth, the sea, the air, and the host of heavenly bodies are all composed, resulted from a change, corresponding to condensation, in something of which we have no intimate knowledge."

He declines to express an opinion as to whether this something is or is not "the ether of space," and whether everything is not "suffering a slow waste which in the long run must lead back to the final chaos."

The Theory of Ionization of Gases by Collision. By John S. Townsend. (Constable & Co.)—Prof. Townsend's Preface reminds us that the suggestion was originally made by him that the conductivity of a gas through which ions are passing is largely due to collisions occurring between the ions and the molecules of the gas; and he is doubtless right when he says the textbooks contain no good description of the methods by which this theory was established, and are often both inaccurate and insufficient on the point. In this modest book of some ninety pages he goes a little further, and would apparently attribute to this cause the whole of the ionization of a gas in which a current is produced. His chief experiments in support of this contention seem to have been made with ultra-violet light as the origin of the ionizing force, and he offers many reasons for preferring this to the Röntgen rays previously employed. Herein he follows the French physicist Stoletow, and he has an interesting section showing how his theory can be applied to the explanation of Stoletow's experiments. In his chapter on 'Ionization by Positive Ions' he mentions that the relative ionizing powers of negative and positive ions in different gases are for hydrogen 15 to 1, for air 57 to 1, and for carbon dioxide no less than 1070 to 1, which, he says truly, supports the assumption that the positive ions are of the same dimensions as the molecules, the discrepancy being greater with gases of high molecular weight.

Good chapters on 'Sparking Potentials' in electric fields which are and are not uniform follow, and deal with the phenomenon that gases (including common air) behave as insulators to electricity until a certain potential is reached. This, he thinks, is due to the multiplication of the few ions always present in any gas, as to which he refers to experiments made by Prof. Geitel and Mr. G. T. R. Wilson. He also rebuts the theory which would confine the part played by the positive ions to the setting free of their negative brethren when they reach the negative electrode, and shows with more or less success that other theories of the sparking potential put forward by Sir Joseph Thomson depend upon assumptions that he finds himself unable to make at present. Prof. Townsend's views are always simply and clearly expressed, and while he does not neglect the use of equations, it is pleasant to find him able to make his meaning manifest by other than mathematical expressions. One wishes that his example were more often imitated than it is by other English physicists.

RESEARCH NOTES.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY has not been long in justifying his election to the Académie des Sciences. The *Comptes Rendus* for last month contained, together with the Presidential decree approving his election as Foreign Associate, a communication from himself and Dr. Gray on the emanation of radium which is an authoritative summary of their recent investigations into the subject. From it we learn that the emanation condenses into a colourless liquid; that it has no chemical action on any other simple or compound body; that its spectrum, although peculiar to itself, resembles that of the gases of the inert or argon series; and that its mean atomic weight is 220, or more exactly 222·5. Hence, say the authors, there can be no doubt that it is what we call an "element," and its proper place in the table of Mendeléeff will be found in the series of inert gases, in which it will rank after xenon. They are also of opinion that it is a normal constituent of our atmosphere, and as the name radium emanation is inconvenient and cumbersome, they propose to rebaptize it Niton, with allusion to its phosphorescent quality.

As *obiter dicta* in the same paper may be noticed Sir William Ramsay's adhesion to Prof. Rutherford's and Mr. Soddy's contention that the Alpha particle emitted by radium causes a loss in its atomic weight of four units, and is really helium; and the remark that the elementary bodies whose atomic weights are between 164 and 182 appear to be unstable.

The paper, which will probably be accepted as definitive, contains an interesting description of the experiments made by the authors with the object of determining the density of Niton, which included the construction of a balance of fused silica of such sensitiveness as to be affected by the half-millionth part of a milligramme.

In *The Philosophical Magazine* for this month Mr. Soddy gives the results of his further investigations into the transformations of uranium X, which have been from time to time mentioned in these Notes. He thinks that uranium X becomes completely inactive without the formation of any product possessing a "detectable" radio-activity. From this he argues that—unless we are to suppose that uranium X is not in the uranium-radium series of substances, or that this series includes hitherto undiscovered rayless products—uranium X changes directly into ionium, and that this last has a period of decay of more than thirty thousand years. The extent of this period has a curious relation to the period of uranium X itself, which Mr. Soddy states in his 'Interpretation of Radium' to be thirty-two days. Moreover, he there speaks of ionium as being the undoubted parent of radium itself, but as probably derived from an intermediate body to which he would assign the atomic weight of 234; and he even suggests that a change is to be looked for in which another Alpha particle is expelled.

Up to the present, therefore, it would seem that his experiments, which are fortunately continuing, have led him to other conclusions than those which he foreshadowed last year; and one wonders whether this result may not eventually lead him to turn back to seek for that emanation of uranium which he then declared so positively did not exist. Analogy has hitherto proved a fairly safe guide in such matters, and if uranium be really, as

most of those engaged on the subject believe, one of the radium series, as well as the heaviest elementary substance known, it seems natural that it should, like thorium and actinium, possess an emanation.

In a communication to the Viennese Academy of Sciences reproduced in the *Physikalische Zeitschrift*, Dr. F. Ehrenhaft gives an interesting account of some experiments lately made by him, with an "ultra-microscope" by Zeiss, on the electric charge carried by particles of gold and platinum thrown off by the electrodes of a powerful coil in activity. His method was to draw the particles into an ebonite box containing a plate condenser, and then to observe the fall of a particle through a measured portion of the field of vision. After observations made with the condenser uncharged, charged, and short-circuited respectively, he came to the conclusion that the charges borne by the particles must be less than 1×10^{-10} electrostatic units, on the assumption that Stokes's formula for the resistance to motion of a sphere in a viscous fluid holds good for such particles. As the charge on the electron is generally taken at 4.6×10^{-10} electrostatic units, this is a serious discrepancy; but it may be noticed that there is no reason for supposing that the particles used in this experiment are necessarily spheres, or that the conditions of the experiment as described exclude the possibility of the partial ionization of the atmosphere surrounding them. One is so often asked for a popular explanation of the methods of ultra-microscopy here employed that they may be said to depend on the principle by which "notes," or particles of dust, become visible in a ray of solar light admitted laterally into a room through a small hole in a shutter.

In a recent number of the *Zeitschrift für Elektrochemie* is a paper by Profs. Le Blanc and Kerschbaum describing the alterations observed by them in the electrical resistance of chloride of silver. By a method of which they give the details, they succeeded in obtaining a solid cylinder of chloride of silver, of almost perfect purity and transparency, between two platinum electrodes of considerable surface area. A current of 10 volts gave under these conditions evidence of a resistance in the salt of several millions of ohms, but this in rather more than an hour fell so rapidly that the tension between the electrodes was not more than 2·1 volts, indicating a total fall to a millionth part of the original resistance. Under an alternative current, however, the resistance again rose with greater rapidity than it had fallen, until it approached its original value, but was restored almost immediately to its former low level by the reapplication of the continuous current. No perceptible alteration in these phenomena seems to have been produced by leaving the substance unexposed to electric action for a night, or by heating it nearly to the melting-point.

Dr. Alfred Gradenwitz, who summarizes the paper in the *Revue Générale des Sciences* for last month, says that it shows that even a slight fall of potential will bring a typical salt to a high degree of conductivity without exhibiting the least trace of decomposition. The authors of the paper propose to extend their researches to other salts, and it may be noted that the experiment above quoted seems to suggest a possible explanation of the behaviour of the Wehnelt cathode.

In the *Comptes Rendus* quoted above there will also be found a communication from M. A. Tian dealing with the action of the ultra-violet rays on gelatine, which appears to be null, so long as the gelatine

remains in a dry state. If, however, the gelatine be converted, by partial solution in water or otherwise, into a state of jelly, the ultra-violet radiation will liquefy it, a property which M. Tian suggests can be turned to account in photography. It is not, however, all ultra-violet rays that produce this effect, but only that part of the spectrum which has a shorter wavelength than 3,000 angströms, and which also coagulates albumen.

Another communication, from MM. H. Biéri, Victor Henri, and Albert Ranc, describes the action of ultra-violet rays upon certain hydrocarbons—for instance, the sugar known as d-fructose, which under its influence undergoes degradation or decomposition into formic aldehyde and carbonic oxide. The authors say that this is the first time that this degradation has been accomplished without employing either ferments or chemical reagents.

The penetrating radiation everywhere present, and often mentioned in these Notes, has been further investigated by Prof. Th. Wulf (of Lemburg), who shows fairly conclusively that it is due to radioactive substances scattered upon the earth's surface, or at no greater depth than one metre below it. His paper, which appears in the current (i.e. the June) number of *Le Radium*, is especially valuable for the excellent summary it gives of earlier inquiries into the same subject.

The *Physikalische Zeitschrift* for this month gives a short paper by Messrs. R. A. Houstoun and J. Logie (of Glasgow University) recommending the use of a trough containing a solution of ammonio-sulphate of iron as a filter for stopping the passage of heat-rays. They state that a layer 3 cm. thick of this solution will transmit 75 per cent of the light and 5.1 per cent of the total radiation from an incandescent lamp with carbon filament, while a layer of water of the same thickness lets through 90 per cent of the light and 11.1 per cent of the total radiation.

The same *Comptes Rendus* also contains a communication from Prof. D. Eginitis, the Director of the Athens Observatory, with regard to Halley's comet, which may tend to dissipate some popular ideas on the subject. He holds that the variations of light exhibited by the tail of the comet, both before and after the inferior conjunction, prove the truth of the hypothesis before held, that the tails of comets are not entirely gaseous, but contain, besides, solid corpuscles, the nature and composition of which are unknown. He further tells us that the same doctrine has long been held by astronomers with regard to comets' heads, and that in this case also the constitution of the solid bodies which are surrounded by the flaming mass of gas is entirely unknown.

This, of course, by no means negatives Dr. Henry Wilde's theory (for which see *Athenæum*, No. 4311) that comets are what he calls celestial ejectamenta, or fragments cast off by the planets; but it does to a certain extent warrant the assumption that their passage near to us may have a certain effect upon our atmosphere.

In the same *Comptes Rendus* appears an account of what its discoverer, Prof. Marcus Hartog, declares to be a new force, which he calls "mitokinesis." He tells us that he has long been seeking for a physical model of the force which causes the cell in kinesis to assume a fusiform shape, and that he has found this in the figure assumed by a skein of silk or other bad conductor of electricity when suspended between the poles of an

electric machine. Working on this, he claims to have established that the fusiform shape of the cell is the result of a dual force, which is due neither to magnetism, nor to osmosis, nor to cytoplasmic currents, and is unknown outside the living organism. The paper is well illustrated, and the plates given should be studied by any one wishing to become more closely acquainted with Prof. Hartog's theory, the basis of which seems to be the demonstration more than seven years ago by Mr. Ralph Lillie that the chromosomes, which are much in evidence at the observed stage of the life of the cell, bear a charge of negative electricity.

In the *Revue Scientifique* for this month Dr. Maurice de Fleury writes on the supposed "change of life" in man, a theory which, he remarks, was put forward by Hippocrates, and has lately been taken up by many English physicians. The view adopted by the latter is that somewhere about the age of forty many men are attacked by a kind of neurasthenia which shows itself in frequent irritability and disgust with life, and is, according to the same authorities, a premonitory symptom of the hardening of the arteries.

Dr. de Fleury has little difficulty in showing, with his usual lucidity, that this view of things is erroneous, and that what is really the matter with the majority of persons thus affected is over-eating and want of exercise in the open air. That this should be so at an age when the digestive powers have lost the vigour of their first youth is a common-sense aspect of the subject that will commend itself to most, as will his prescription of a lighter diet, warm baths, massage, and above all walks. He also recommends, although without much insistence, the administration of extract of the thyroid gland, although he is careful to say this should only be taken under the advice of a physician.

The same journal contains a summary of some recent experiments of the Italian physician Signor Valenti on the physical cause of the sensations of hunger and thirst, which he places in the pneumogastric nerves controlling the pharynx and the upper parts of the oesophagus. By treating the nerves in question, or, in the alternative, the mucous membrane of the throat and gullet, with cocaine, Signor Valenti has succeeded in creating the most perfect indifference to food and drink for a period of some days, not only in man, but in the lower animals. The result may serve to show the effect desired by the South American Indians in chewing, as Charles Kingsley noted in 'Westward Ho,' the leaves of *Erythroxylon coca*.

F. L.

THE GERMAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE forty-first General Meeting of the German Anthropological Society was held this year in Cologne from the 3rd to the 6th inst. At this annual meeting assemble the members of the numerous local anthropological societies scattered throughout Germany. Every year a different town is selected as a place of meeting. The leading German anthropologists usually attend, and important papers are read and discussed.

The paper which excited the greatest interest at the Cologne meeting was one by Prof. Klaatsch of Breslau on his new theory of the affinities of the Palæolithic races of man with certain of the anthropoid apes.

For many years anthropologists believed that there was only one Palæolithic race in Europe, namely, the Neanderthal type. But recently the belief has been gaining ground that there was at least one other type living contemporaneously with the Neanderthal man. This race is represented by the Brunn and Galley Hill skulls. A remarkably complete skeleton of this type was discovered last year by O. Hauser and Prof. Klaatsch at Combe-Capelle, department of the Dordogne, France. This skeleton was discovered in a cave, buried in a stratum known as the Aurignac, lying between the Mousterian and the Solutrian strata, and has been named by Prof. Klaatsch *Homo aurignacensis*. From a careful comparison of the bones of the Neanderthal and Aurignac men with those of the gorilla and the orang-utan, Prof. Klaatsch finds that the Neanderthal man is closely allied to the gorilla, and the Aurignac man to the orang-utan. This amounts to a theory of a multiple origin of mankind.

Prof. Klaatsch's theory is by no means generally adopted by his German colleagues, but the large body of evidence he has collected creates a strong *prima facie* case in its favour.

Another important paper was read by Prof. Berry on the place in nature of the Tasmanian. A recent find of over forty Tasmanian skulls has placed in his hands a large mass of material, which has enabled him to assign to the Tasmanian his true place in the scale of evolution, and determine his relations with prehistoric races and living primitive peoples like the Papuans and the Australian aborigines.

Among other valuable contributions were a paper by Dr. J. Czekanowsky on the Pygmies of Central Africa, and another by Prof. von Luschlan on applied anthropology. The latter emphasized the importance to modern civilized nations, in their intense struggle for existence, of applying the principles of the science of man to control social evolution, his ideas being similar to those of the English eugenic school.

After the meeting a very interesting tour was made in the highlands of Belgium, which are rich in Palæolithic and Neolithic sites. Visits were also paid to the museums of Liège, Namur, and Brussels, where admirable collections of prehistoric implements and remains are to be found.

Science Gossip.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE are publishing 'The Call of the Snowy Hissar: a Narrative of Exploration and Mountaineering on the Northern Frontier of India,' by Mr. W. H. Workman and his wife; and 'In Search of a Wilderness,' by Mary and C. William Beebe, which records the expedition of two naturalists in South America.

MESSRS. PUTNAM announce 'The History of Medicine, Philosophical and Critical, from its Origin to the Twentieth Century,' by Dr. David Allyn Gorton.

THE Vacation Number of *The Oxford and Cambridge Review* has an interesting first article on 'The Luck of the Horse-Shoe,' by Dr. Smythe Palmer, which is well fortified by references at the bottom of the page. Dr. Pattison Muir's paper on 'The Influence of Science on Literature' is too discursive to be of much value. He does not deal with a main point which must strike all competent observers—

that men of science lose much of the appeal they might have by their clumsy and involved style of writing. Further, he does not mention John Davidson, the one man who frankly attempted to make the hard words of present science into poetry. Mr. Anthony Collett has a pleasant paper on 'Oxford Birds.'

MESSRS. GEORGE PHILIP & SON announce 'Town-Planning,' a practical guide by Messrs. E. G. Bentley and S. P. Taylor; 'Ship Economics for Mercantile Marine Officers,' by Capt. Hugh Owen; and 'General and Regional Geography for Students,' a textbook for teachers, by Messrs. J. F. Unstead and E. G. R. Taylor.

MR. FRANK PODMORE, who was found drowned on Thursday in last week, was one of the sanest of the students of spiritualism and psychical research, and his books on these subjects, beginning with 'Apparitions and Thought Transference' in 1894, are valuable contributions to critical study.

THE comet (b, 1910) which was discovered by Dr. Metcalf at Taunton, Mass., on the 9th inst. has been observed at Greenwich and many other observatories. An approximate orbit has been calculated by Prof. Kobold, with the result that the perihelion passage probably took place on the 12th ult. at the distance from the sun of 1.050 in terms of the earth's mean distance, or about 98,000,000 miles. The comet's distance from us is now nearly the same as that of the sun, and slowly increasing, so that the brightness, which at no time exceeded that of a star of the tenth magnitude, is diminishing. According to Prof. Kobold's ephemeris, its apparent place is now very near ϕ Serpentis, and the motion very slow.

THE small planet which was announced as having been photographically discovered by Herr Lorenz at Heidelberg on September 16th, 1909, turns out to be identical with Tolosa (No. 138), which was discovered by Perrotin at Toulouse on May 19th, 1874.

FINE ARTS

Wood Carvings in English Churches.—Vol. I. *Misericords.* By Francis Bond. (Oxford University Press.)

MR. FRANCIS BOND has put his rare industry in all that pertains to ecclesiology to excellent service in this his latest work, which treats of misericords. Not only are the carvings of the quire seats of our mediæval churches rich in illustration of the craft of the carvers in wood during some four centuries, but they also tell us much as to their knowledge of birds and beasts and fishes, both in reality and in fiction. Then, too, these particular carvings abound in information as to the everyday life of ordinary folk, constituting, in fact, a history of social England from the days of Henry III. to those of Henry VIII. :—

"What we see is an honest transcript of what went on every day in the cottages and streets, in the fields and the woods; we see country folk ploughing, sowing, weeding, mowing, reaping, carting, threshing; fattening and killing the family pig, sheep-

shearing, milking; we see them enjoying their sports and pastimes; we hear the ale-house jests, the wise saws and modern instances, hoary witticisms, proverbs, and nursery rhymes. The limitations of their Bible knowledge and of their acquaintance with the legends of the Saints throw a curious light on the religious atmosphere of bourgeois life. Their opinions on music and art and dancing, on the high observance of chivalry, on the preaching and mendicant friars, on the mediæval doctor and dentist, find forcible expression. They are the censors of vice, and no form of immorality escapes their lash. The carvings present to us a picture—realistic and true—of that history which does not find its way into books."

This book, the first genuine attempt to deal comprehensively with the subject of carvings so situated as to escape the attention of all except those who are wholesomely curious in such matters, is divided, after a good plan, into parts and sections, and is illustrated by nearly 250 photographs and drawings.

The first part treats of Eastern and classical mythology, and is explanatory of such subjects as the siren, mermaid, dolphins, centaur, and satyr; but is more especially informing with regard to the unicorn, salamander, cockatrice, barnacle, dragon, griffin, and wyvern.

The second part deals with such carvings as illustrate travellers' tales, mediæval romances, and Æsop's fables; whilst other chapters are devoted to the discussion and illustration of Scriptural subjects and miracle plays, and all the varied scenes of everyday life, telling of domestic peace or family jars, and the incidents associated with the details of agriculture and various kinds of trade. The subdivisions which treat of many forms of satire, whether on religion, on jousts and tournaments, on doctors and dentists, or on music and dancing, are well arranged and aptly described.

The third part is essentially practical, and will prove of much service to those who desire to make a study of these carvings, or gain information concerning particular examples. The use and nomenclature of these misericords or "indulgence seats" are tersely and satisfactorily explained, and ought to put an end to much folly wherewith certain vergers and not a few better-educated persons are wont to entertain church visitors. The earliest custom of the Christian Church was that the congregation stood during the whole of the services; this was followed by kneeling at prayer, and then came occasional sitting in quire, as during sermons and lessons. But the continuous round of the daily offices—seven distinct services in the twenty-four hours—with the length of the Psalms, canticles, and hymns, when standing was obligatory, made this posture a serious strain on the aged or infirm; the quire seats were made to turn up, so that there were small ledges on which to rest, when standing was required, by way of indulgence or mercy. Hence they were known as "misericords," of which "misereres" is a corruption of the last century, first

used by Bishop Milner in his 'History of Winchester.'

Mr. Bond also supplies useful criteria whereby the approximate date of misericords can be known. No English examples are earlier than the thirteenth century.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Dutch Painting in the Nineteenth Century. By G. Hermine Marius. Translated by A. T. de Mattos. (A. Moring.)—Any one viewing the title of this book would, we think, expect to find in it a short summary of the art of Holland between the period of "the Van Somthings and the Back Somthings," as Ruskin called them, and the foundation of the nineteenth-century revival of art at the Hague about 1870. He would look for detailed biographies of Israëls, Bosboom, Mauve, and the Marises, together with a *catalogue raisonné* (possibly somewhat compressed) of their paintings, drawings, and etchings.

The author, by the aid of his translator, has, on the contrary, endeavoured, not altogether unsuccessfully, to arouse and sustain our interest by giving up some thirty pages to the art of the history painters, J. W. Pieneman, Nicolaas Pieneman, Daiwille, Cornelis Kruseman, and Jan Kruseman; by devoting some twenty pages to the romanticists from Ary Scheffer to J. G. Schwartz; and by a discussion on the landscape and genre painters, the masters of the cabinet picture and the fore-runners of the Hague School. The reader thus finds himself asked to subscribe to the somewhat fulsome praise and not very critical appreciation of over two hundred mediocre painters.

It is easier to agree with the author in his estimate of Josef Israëls as "incontestably the head of the Dutch School of painting" in his century than it is to admit that Israëls "ranks with the most important artists of all countries." It does not speak well for the art of Rienk Jelgerhuis that he "has no fewer than 7763 [pictures] standing to his credit." It might perhaps have been pointed out that C. H. Hodges was born in London and died in Amsterdam; these facts are given in the catalogue of paintings in the Louvre, where he is represented by a mediocre 'Portrait de Femme.' It is overstating the merits of Hodges to say that "if he is not to be compared with the great English portrait painters of the eighteenth century, the fact remains that he possessed something of their taste"; while to assert that "his talent was distinguished rather than powerful" is to give an erroneous impression. It is curious to note that two pages later the author admits that "the soil had exhausted itself in producing the miraculous figure of Rembrandt, the epitome of all talent, conscious and unconscious forces" (p. 9).

It is a doubtful compliment to Cornelis Kruseman to say that he "knew how, at a given moment, to give to a certain public exactly what it demanded, an ideal conception of biblical figures, devoid of sensual charm or passion." Nor is it very enlightening to learn that Ary Scheffer, who "lacked technical knowledge," but "was doted upon by women," produced a picture of "Charlotte Corday, an excellent painting in the Luxembourg, which was copied there no fewer than twelve hundred times before the year 1849."

Few will be disposed to dispute that "the distance between Petrus van Schendel and Da Vinci is great." Jacob van Strij may have "introduced Cuypp's colour-scheme so cleverly into his work that their pictures were often mistaken for one another," but the author should have added that the former's productions were nevertheless merely mechanical and uninspired productions.

We are told that Vincent van Gogh was by turns a painter, art-dealer, teacher, and gospel-preacher, and that his brother Theodor, delighted at hearing that he was sketching in the Borinage, exclaimed: "Now you shall see something! Vincent has taken to drawing: that means a second Rembrandt!" The prophecy was unfortunate.

The translator has performed his task with great credit, and rendered the original into excellent and fluent English. The proofs have been carefully read. The book, which will appeal to the modern painter rather than the professed student, is admirably illustrated with a photogravure and 130 half-tone reproductions. A fuller Index would have been an advantage.

THE GEORGIAN SOCIETY was instituted over two years ago with the object of recording the distinctive features of eighteenth-century architecture and craftwork in Dublin, and of taking all possible steps for their preservation. In view of the fact that the Society includes among its members most of the prominent architects and antiquaries of Dublin, under the presidency of so distinguished a scholar as Dr. Mahaffy, it was natural that considerable results should have been expected of it. Such expectation has been more than justified. It is now fully recognized that the publications of the Society will in future be regarded as an authoritative record of the details of eighteenth-century buildings and modelled plasterwork in Dublin. The first volume, issued last year, was a striking example of accurate observation and effective reproduction.

The second volume, just published (Dublin, the Society), shows a considerable advance upon its predecessor; for while the actual survey of the buildings dealt with is characterized by the same precision of detail, the historical side of the work has been much more exhaustively handled, and the general interest much enhanced thereby. The editors have been well advised to lay stress on this department of the Society's work, which is particularly appropriate to the scope of the book. The districts treated are Henrietta Street, once the most aristocratic quarter of the city; Stephen's Green, "the most extensive square in Europe," as Lockhart calls it; and Ely Place, where that powerful and ruthless Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Clare, once lived and died. These places teem with historic associations, and almost every page of the book recalls some of the great nobles, statesmen, and prelates who made Dublin no mean city in the Georgian era.

The Aragonese Double Crown and the Borja or Borgia Device. By Albert van de Put. (Quaritch.)—In this, the first publication of the Gryphon Club, the author discusses, with considerable erudition and careful elaboration of detail, the probable connexion between the device of the Double Crown, used by Pope Alexander VI. and the Dukes of Gandia at the end of the fifteenth century, and the *Corona Doble*, which appears to have been the badge of an order of chivalry instituted by John I., King of Aragon, in 1392.

The obvious origin of King John's device was the union of the crowns of Aragon and Sicily, by the marriage of the king's nephew, son of the heir-presumptive, with the daughter of Frederick III. of Sicily. Of the actual shape of the insignia used Mr. van de Put, after diligent search, has not been able to find any indication. All that can be ascertained from the letters of King John and from documents in the archives of Palermo is that it was a double crown worn dependent from the neck, and made in gold for knights, and in silver for esquires. Of the Borgia Double Crown, however, examples can be seen at the Vatican and at the Ducal Palace, Gandia. In these the crowns are conjoined, the lower one being inverted, with *fleurons rayonnants*.

There is, no doubt, reason to conclude, as Mr. van de Put does, that the Borgia cognizance was assumed as a revival of the *Corona Doble* of Aragon. It was certainly natural that the great Borgia Pope should desire to emphasize his connexion with a royal house. On the other hand, it may be pointed out that this connexion was at best very remote, and only existed through his alleged descent from Ramiro I., who died 300 years before the Order of the *Corona Doble* was instituted. As Alexander VI. claimed no descent from the actual founder of the order, there appears to be no hereditary reason for his assumption of the device.

There are several interesting appendixes to the book. In one of these the author disposes of an error into which some writers have fallen in describing a device used by the Dukes of Orleans as a *couronne renversée*. This cognizance was in reality a *camail*, the piece of chain mail which defended the neck and throat. The confusion arose from the resemblance of the *camail*, which ends in several sharp points, to an inverted crown. Another appendix treats of the device of the flying stag adopted by Charles VI. of France, and presented by him to King John of Aragon.

The little book contains several illustrations. Curiously enough, it appears from one of these, a reproduction of the memorial window to Yolande of Aragon, Queen of Sicily, in Le Mans Cathedral, that the tinctures of the dimidiated Aragon shield, in the sinister, are reversed, showing Gules, two pales or, instead of Or, two pales gules. This kind of error is not uncommon in early stained glass.

Wooden Monumental Effigies in England and Wales. By Alfred C. Fryer. (Elliot Stock.)—Dr. Fryer has done well in reprinting the long paper which recently appeared in the *Archæologia* on the old wooden effigies of England and Wales, and in supplying the book with a series of thirty-five excellent plates from his own camera. It requires much careful work and personal visitation to obtain accurate lists of anything of the nature of church furniture, but it might have been thought that matters so exceptional and of such a size as wooden effigies would have been comparatively easy to schedule. It is not, however, many years since what was then supposed to be an authoritative list of wooden effigies was issued by a distinguished Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. This list is now shown by Dr. Fryer to contain four errors and nineteen omissions.

So far as Dr. Fryer's apparently exhaustive research has gone, there are now ninety-three wooden monumental effigies extant in England and Wales, distributed over twenty-six counties. Fifty-eight are military persons, twenty-four are ladies, and there are

also one king, one judge, three laymen, one archbishop, and three priests. Authentic records exist of twenty-two wooden effigies which have been destroyed, several in modern times. The church of Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire, used to possess the fine oak effigy of Stephen de Radcliffe, who died in 1245, and was a special benefactor to the church. The church authorities were in the habit during the eighteenth century of allowing the youths of the place to turn this effigy into a fifth of November "Guy," dressing it up and painting it according to the caprice of the day. At last, when the news of the battle of Waterloo arrived, the ancient warrior was once more taken from his place of rest in a sepulchral recess against the south wall, and was dressed up to represent Bonaparte, with the result that this thirteenth-century effigy ended its days in the centre of a loyal bonfire!

Perhaps Dr. Fryer thought this side of the subject too flippant for elaboration in his monograph, for otherwise a considerable amount of painful but amusing reading might have been collected concerning the treatment of not a few of these ancient and easily moved effigies. We know of a case in Suffolk where the wooden figures of a knight and his lady were carried round the village in a Whitsuntide club procession for several years, with the result that the dame's figure is now lost, and her husband's is in a most mutilated condition. In another case the effigy of a fourteenth-century knight was taken from the church by a party of riotous young men after nightfall, and was placed in the bed of the youthful squire, who was holding his coming-of-age festivities. The result was a serious fit, and the parents in their anger had the figure chopped up.

A few words are given by Dr. Fryer to the loss of an ancient wooden effigy out of the church of Holdenby, Northamptonshire, but in this case the facts as stated are not in accord with what, we believe, really took place. The effigy was removed in the dark, carted away stealthily, with the horse's feet muffled up in cloths, to satisfy the longings of an American antiquary. The same man also purchased the old register of the church from the clerk at the time when there was no resident rector. There are other strange circumstances connected with these sacrilegious acts which it would be out of place to cite in a review.

Dr. Fryer in this valuable volume has set at rest several vexed questions with regard to these figures. For instance, in the Essex church of Little Baddow there are two most interesting fourteenth-century wooden effigies of a civilian and his lady, who were apparently the refounders of the church. The man is dressed in a long tight-fitting cassock with wide-sleeved outer gown; hence he has been often ignorantly taken for a woman, and the story that the figures are the two wives of a knight of local fame obtained at one time general currency.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES.

THE current number of Sir Gaston Maspero's *Recueil de Travaux* contains an article by M. Maurice Pézard in which he claims several incised cylinders and flat seals, obtained by M. de Morgan in the course of his excavations at Susa, as belonging to the very earliest period of Elamite civilization, and of the same period as the painted pottery found by the excavators in the deepest and

earliest strata below the Acropolis. According to the author, they show with great clearness that the earliest religion of these primitive tribes was an adoration of the forces of nature, and that the star-worship of their successors, both in Elam and Babylonia, was only an accessory of this. Among the symbols displayed on these seals are to be found the solar disk; the star with eight points; another star formed of one large point surrounded by several smaller ones; the Maltese cross; trees conventionally represented; a lozenge-shaped figure in which M. Pézard sees a diagrammatic representation of a fish; the lion-headed eagle displayed bearing two animals (lions?) in his claws, which is here evidently not the armorial bearings of the city of Lagash; and the emblem of the god Marduk. Only one representation of the human figure is to be found among the flat seals, and this one is so much mutilated that it is difficult to recognize in it the "man brandishing a mace" that M. Pézard would see in it. He is more lucky with his animal figures, which include among them a life-like representation (in relief) of a lion, and many antelopes and other *Cervidæ*.

The cylinders show as a whole the same figures, but are probably of a later period. The Maltese cross M. Pézard thinks to be a symbol of fire, which is curious in view of the Egyptian hieroglyph reading khet, which is generally supposed to be a cresset or lamp swinging from a cord.

Among other things, M. Pézard thinks that Gibil, the name of the Elamite god of fire, enters into the composition of Gilgamesh, the Sumerian Hercules, and points out some difficulties which this casts in the way of our discovering the original home of his legend.

The current (May-June) number of the *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* includes M. L. Delaporte's study of the last version of the Babylonian Flood Legend, which Dr. Hilprecht has published from a tablet found by Pennsylvania University's expedition at Nippur. It does not contain more than fourteen lines, and includes a much-mutilated fragment of the instructions given by the god Ea to the hero Utanapistim as to the building of the ark in which he was to escape from the deluge sent upon the world for the destruction of mankind by the god En-il or Bel. The chief point about this new version is that it is slightly nearer to the Biblical account of the Flood than the three variants which have preceded it, and that it speaks directly of an "ark"—a different word is employed from that for "ship," by which the vessel is also designated—in which "the beasts of the field and the birds of the air" are to be made to enter. As M. Delaporte reminds us, Dr. Hilprecht has elsewhere avowed his belief in the historical existence of Abraham, who, according to him, quitted the Land of Sumer in the time of the First Babylonian Dynasty, when the cuneiform writing, and doubtless the Epic of Gilgamesh, of which the Flood Legend is an episode, had spread at least as far as Asia Minor.

The *Recueil* above quoted contains an article by Mrs. Grenfell on 'The Rarer Scarabs of the New Kingdom' that will be read with much interest by collectors. That most of the "horizon" scarabs contain a wish and were intended as amulets or phylacteries may be conceded; but such a sentence as "May (Deceased) join heaven, and make her way (determinative only is given) (to the Power which has) created her," requires a good deal of "read-

ing in," when, as will be seen, "join heaven" and "created" are the only words actually written. On the whole, however, Mrs. Grenfell's conjectures—they can hardly be considered anything else—are excellent, and those dealing with the notion of the next world possessed by the Egyptians receive confirmation in many cases from the 'Pistis Sophia,' a work with which she does not seem to be acquainted. Besides the Horizon scarabs she divides her subject into the different classes of "In-Ra," "Amakh," "Utchat," Lotus, Sandal, Spear, and Ear scarabs; and she has not yet exhausted it, as we are promised another article on Heart scarabs. All, according to her, are "wish" scarabs, and the illustrations given are valuable. On the other hand, the authorities quoted seem to have been collected without much exercise of the critical faculty, and one "translation" of the 81st chapter of 'The Book of the Dead,' which she mentions with approval as making "the best sense," labours under the disqualification that it has no connexion with the original. The article has its use, however, and shows that scarabs are by no means always seals.

Of different value from the foregoing are M. Gustave Jéquier's 'Notes' in the same number, which treat of several important points with authority as well as insight. One of them relates to the question of "burnt offerings," which some writers have asserted are not to be found among the Egyptians. M. Jéquier gives, however, a scene from an eighteenth Dynasty tomb at Sheikh Abd-el-Kurneh in which the flames are clearly shown licking a trussed goose laid upon the altar, which he suggests was kept hot with charcoal.

Another note touches upon the origin of the funerary stele, which in later times was generally a block of lime or other stone with a domed top bearing on its face the *Suten-di-hotep* formula, entreating the gods to give a portion of the offerings to the deceased. M. Jéquier shows that at the beginning it was simply the door of the tomb itself, on which was sculptured the image of the dead surrounded by offerings. Then it was replaced by the representation of a door with a window in it, through which the visitors were supposed to view the dead, the whole affair being called the "false door." Then the window, as he says, being the important part of the matter, only this was shown, and the lintels and architrave disappeared altogether, until its original signification was lost, although to the very last the funerary stele was detached from the tomb, and, fixed upright in the grave like a tombstone, still bore traces of its origin in the false door. One wonders whether our own tombstones may not have had a similar origin.

In the July number of *Sphinx* appears a long, careful, and on the whole laudatory notice of Dr. Wallis Budge's last six volumes of the "Books on Egypt and Chaldaea," comprising his last version of 'The Book of the Dead,' 'The Book of Opening the Mouth,' and 'The Book of Funerary Offerings.' The second of these has stirred up the reviewer, M. George Foucart, to publish in the August number of the same journal the first part of an article on the ceremony of Opening the Mouth. We know from an earlier study of M. Foucart that he has some new ideas upon the subject, among which is the view that the ceremony was performed, not, as has hitherto been said, at the door of the tomb of the deceased, but on the platform of the tomb of Osiris at

Abydos. He now tells us, among other things, that the ceremony must be older than the myth which makes Set the murderer of Osiris, because it implies the presence of Horus and Set together, and as allies equally beneficent and equally helpful to the dead. So, too, the parts played by the gods Shu and Anubis are quite different from those assigned to them under (say) the Middle and New Empires. In all this he is very possibly right, and the Opening the Mouth ceremony may go back to prehistoric times, when the Heliopolitan reform of the Egyptian religion had not yet been thought of, and when the whole ritual (for this seems to follow) was purely African.

It is to be hoped that M. Foucart will before long continue his interesting study. We are glad to hear that he has just been made Professor of the History of Religions at the University of Aix-Marseille, besides receiving a similar appointment at the Marseilles Colonial Institute. His work on comparative religion has always been as judicious as it is valuable.

In the *Revue Critique* for this month appears a review of Dr. Arthur Evans's 'Scripta Minora,' by M. Fossey, who brings to the task an erudition in the matter of Western Asiatic religions which enables him to approach his subject from a new standpoint. He agrees that the presence of the same signs on the Cretan tablets and on the seals shows that they are not mere symbols, but a script, and that their relatively small number and want of apparent association indicate that they were used phonetically, while the average number of signs composing a word makes it plain that they were used to write syllables. That the hieroglyphs of Crete borrowed some signs from their Egyptian neighbours, such as the *crux ansata* and the tower with a staircase, he is also willing to agree; while he points out that the most characteristic of them do not appear among the Hittite characters, and conversely, the double-axe, which was worshipped in Asia Minor as in Crete, was entirely absent from the Hittite syllabary. M. Fossey is more inclined to look for analogies with the Cretan signs among the Cypriote, Lycian, and Carian scripts; and he says that if it can be shown that the corresponding signs of the earlier and later scripts of Cyprus have the same meaning, the decipherment of the Cretan hieroglyphs ought not to present insuperable difficulty. In the view that all the attempts made to derive the Phœnician alphabet from any Semitic one have broken down, and that De Rouge's would-be demonstration that it is of hieratic origin is unsatisfactory, he is fully in accord with Dr. Evans; while he sees nothing incongruous in Dr. Evans's theory that the Philistines, admittedly Cretans, are responsible for the introduction of the Cretan hieroglyphs into Syria.

In Prof. F. Haase's 'Untersuchungen zur Bardesanischen Gnosis' we have a carefully written study of the few remains of this little-known Gnostic writer, who was not, according to Prof. Haase, the author of the treatise *περί εἰσαγωγῆς* generally attributed to him. He seems, in fact, to have been a private person much interested, as many of the Gnostics were, in the religious beliefs of foreign nations, and exceedingly anxious not to be known as an heresiarch or chief of a sect. Along with many of the doctrines of the earlier Gnostics, he shared their addiction to astrology, and it is very unlikely that he had anything to do with the composition of the Apocryphal Acts of St. Thomas. His name has always been great in Persia, and Albiruni makes him a follower

of Marcion—against whom he wrote—and declares that his disciples thought themselves possessed of an inner light, after the manner of certain Sufis.

Prof. Haase is of opinion that it was through him that Buddhism came to influence, as he says it did, the growing literature of Christianity. This seems doubtful, and the cardinal doctrine assigned to Bardesanes of a *παρὶς ἄγνωστος* or Unknown God, which seems to have been the only one which he shared with Buddhism, is attributed to many sectaries besides himself. Yet the question is far from clear, and the discoveries of MSS. by Dr. Aurel Stein and Dr. von Le Roy at Turfan show how strangely Buddhists, Manichæans, and perhaps Nestorian Christians managed to live together in a corner of Turkestan without, apparently, any of the hostility that they showed towards each other further West.

The *Revue des Études Grecques* contains a paper by M. Pierre Waltz on the ever-interesting myth of Pandora, which he would explain by translating the *Elpis* of Hesiod as the foreknowledge or anticipation of misfortune, which Pandora, luckily for us, kept shut up in the box of woes. Hence the word came to be identified with hope, of which we should otherwise have been forever deprived.

Another good article in the same journal is one by M. René Pichon on the gold plates of Petelia, in which he mentions the curious expression of the Orphic initiate that he was "like a kid bathed in milk." It has sometimes been interpreted as signifying that he has obtained the summit of his desires. M. Salomon Reinach says that it refers to the spiritual bath of initiation, and M. Pichon that it has no metaphorical meaning at all, but refers to an actual and veritable bath coloured with some substance of a milky nature.

None of these authors seems to have noticed that in the Zoroastrian books it is said that the fires of the Judgment which will consume the incorrigible will have no effect on the pious, to whom they will cause a sensation as if they were bathing in warm milk.

PROF. ADOLF MICHAELIS.

ADOLF MICHAELIS, who passed away on the 12th inst. in the 76th year of his age, was a link uniting the past generation of archaeologists with the present. A nephew of Otto Jahn, and his collaborator, he visited the Greek mainland and islands in 1860, partly in company with his friends Conze and Pervanoglu, a visit which resulted in the publishing of many interesting monuments. He also resided for some time at Rome, and was a prominent member of the Istituto, which was then international, in the palmy days of Gerhard and the Duc de Luynes. His destiny, however, was not to make great excavations on classic soil, but to become the most learned and judicious of the archaeologists of the museum.

After holding professorships at Greifswald and Tübingen, Michaelis was, at the refoundation of the German University at Strasburg in 1872, called to the Professorship of Archaeology in that city. He took so prominent a part in organization that the great University building was nicknamed by the people of Strasburg "Le Palais Michaelis." There he formed a great museum of casts and an archaeological workshop; and thence he poured forth a great stream of papers on Greek antiquity.

But the most important tasks of Michaelis were connected with England, which he often visited, and where he formed strong friendships with G. Scharf, C. T. Newton, A. W. Franks, Mr. Sidney Colvin, and others. In 1871 appeared his great work on the Parthenon, a model of method, and a monument of scholarship, which retains much of its value to this day. In 1874 he did a similar service to the Nereid Monument of the British Museum. In 1882 he laid English lovers of art under a still deeper obligation by publishing an exhaustive and detailed catalogue of the ancient marbles in private collections in Great Britain. Among his recent publications are a new edition of Springer's 'History of Ancient Art,' and an admirable résumé of the discoveries of the last century, which has been translated into English under the title of 'A Century of Archaeological Discoveries' (1908).

Several books have been written on the Parthenon from various points of view. Michaelis was interested not so much in the æsthetic side of the great temple as in the archaeological. First he gave an exact account of all the then known remains; and then he tried to bring together all possible material for the solution of all the problems which they suggest, all the light which can be derived from ancient writers, inscriptions, and investigations into Greek history and art. No other writing on the subject shows so much scientific and intellectual thoroughness.

As the 'Parthenon' was Michaelis's first great work, the 'Century of Discoveries' is the latest. Here we find the same exact scholarship, the same careful accuracy; but the writer has grown broader, and his method is not so rigid. He is less of a specialist and more of an historian, rejoicing in every fresh fact revealed by the spade, but considering not merely its place in scientific archaeology, but also the way in which it will help on our knowledge and appreciation of the ancient world. He has learnt to speak to a wider public, and to appreciate the need of interesting not only scholars, but also all whose education has been humane and generous.

Few archaeologists have ever equalled Michaelis in method, in accuracy, and in sound judgment. He was before all things a scholar, and inaccurate writing filled him with horror. The generation which has grown up with Furtwängler no doubt consider him old-fashioned; but his work far exceeds theirs in durability. As an example of his rapid and masterly style of work it may be mentioned that he made a complete catalogue of the ancient sculpture in Oxford, a catalogue occupying 57 large octavo pages, in two or three days, every specimen being carefully measured and minutely described, even the restorations being accurately determined. In spite of the haste with which this catalogue must have been written, the number of errors in it is extremely small. So precise was his knowledge of the collections he visited that he retained a mental image of all the statues he had seen in them, and would at once identify them from photographs. But on this great basis of knowledge he did not attempt to build theories, except in occasional papers in the *Annali* of the Institute and elsewhere. Having an exact sense of degrees of probability, he preferred to stop where it passed into possibility, and left to others the attempt to construct a minute and detailed history of ancient art, in which only a few landmarks can be fixed with confidence.

Michaelis knew the writings of Wheler, Selden, Chandler, Payne Knight, Horace

Walpole, and other English classicists as no one else has known them; and the whole history of our collections of antiquities from the days of Lord Arundel in the reign of James I. to those of Newton and Wood was at his fingers' ends. And it is a work of supererogation, except for purposes of self-training or for the pleasure of studying good workmanship, ever to compare his statements with his authorities. Sometimes he wrote articles in English for the *Journal of Hellenic Studies*: his English was very good; but he occasionally missed our idioms because he was determined to make some English words convey a more precise meaning than they were intended to bear.

Michaelis's position at Strasburg was no bed of roses, especially in the years immediately following the great war. Though he refused very high posts at Berlin, it may be feared that constant friction acted corrosively on his nerves; and in recent years he had been often out of health and spirits. Cambridge gave him a well-earned degree many years ago: recently he had planned a visit to England, but gave it up as the time came near, saying that the gaps caused by the death of his old friends in this country would affect him too painfully.

Michaelis has left pupils, notably Dr. Hauser and Dr. Winnefeld, who seem to show the effects of his strict and conscientious instruction. He has not left a reputation for genius like Brunn, nor is his output to be compared in extent with that of Furtwängler; but he has made a mark in all the subjects on which he has written; little of his work will have to be done again; and to England especially he has done excellent and abiding service.

PERCY GARDNER.

Fine Art Gossip.

A FURTHER selection of the pictures of the Salting Bequest has lately been exhibited at Trafalgar Square, and the Director has taken the opportunity of hanging these pictures according to schools, some of the British paintings which were temporarily hung in Room XV. now being placed in Room XX. The eight new works by Constable include 'Dedham Vale,' 'Leathes Water,' 'Stoke by Nayland,' and 'Trees near Hampstead Church.' The same artist's 'Salisbury Cathedral' was exhibited at Burlington House in 1903; and his 'Dedham Mill, Essex,' was in the Louis Huth Sale. John Crome's 'Fresh Breeze' and 'Heath Scene' hang on the same wall.

SOME of the most important Dutch pictures in the same bequest have during the last few days been placed on a screen in Room XV. They include Paul Potter's 'Cattle in a Stormy Landscape,' signed and dated 1647; a 'Windmill by a River' and a 'Scene on the Ice,' painted in 1645 by Jan van Goyen; Jan van de Cappelle's 'Calm'; a 'Boy holding a Grey Horse,' by Cuypp; and Isack van Ostade's 'The Cart.'

ON the wall to the left of this screen are placed an 'Entrance to the Forest,' by Jacob van Ruysdael; a 'Music Party,' which bears the monogram of Pieter Codde, but has usually passed under the name of Palamedes; and the 'Village Smithy,' by Wouwermans, which was in 1899 in the Schubart Collection in Munich. In the north-east corner of the same room are hung Jacob van Ruysdael's 'Cottage on a Rocky

Hill'; a 'Seascape: Windy Day,' by W. van de Velde; and a large 'Interior of the Church of St. Baron, Haarlem,' by Saenredam.

AMONGST recent additions to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery is a life-size drawing in chalk of Robert Burns by Archibald Skirving, which has been purchased from the executors of Sir Theodore Martin. This makes six portraits of the poet now in the Gallery. Sir Theodore bequeathed to the Gallery portraits of himself and his wife.

OTHER recent additions are a bust of John, Duke of Argyll and Greenwich; 'Mr. Gladstone entering a Drawing-Room,' by Sir W. Q. Orchardson; a pastel head of Lord Kelvin by Mr. William Rothenstein; a portrait of the Rev. James Taylor by Sir Daniel Macnee; and a bust of John Stuart Blackie. Three portraits of artists have also been hung: a pencil drawing of Orchardson by Mr. J. H. Lorimer; a portrait in oil of Sir Daniel Macnee by James Macbeth; and one of J. Milne Donald by James Stewart.

THE four water-colour drawings done from the top of the Scott Monument at Edinburgh in 1845 by J. W. Ebsworth, which were presented by Mr. John C. Francis to the Corporation of the city, have now been hung in the Corporation Museum.

MR. W. ROBERTS is contributing to *The National Review* an article on 'English Pictures in German Galleries.'

THE annual exhibition of photographs by the Royal Photographic Society, which for the last ten years has taken place at the New Gallery, is held this year at the Royal Water-Colour Society's Gallery in Pall Mall. The exhibition, which will remain open till September 16th, is divided into four sections: Pictorial, Colour Photography, Natural History Photography, and Scientific Applications of Photography.

SIR EDWARD TENNANT, whose public spirit in opening his gallery in Queen Anne's Gate to the public we recently noticed, has arranged with the Medici Society to issue, in due course, a series of their coloured "Medici Prints" after several of the chief pictures in his gallery.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE announce 'English Episcopal Palaces: Province of York,' edited by Mr. R. S. Rait, a companion volume to that we recently noticed dealing with the Province of Canterbury. The palaces considered are York, Durham, Auckland, and Carlisle.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS promise 'Notes on the Art of Rembrandt,' by Mr. C. J. Holmes, the Director of the National Portrait Gallery.

A RECENT publication of interest to archaeologists is Mr. St. John Hope's Report to the Society of Antiquaries, on behalf of Lieut.-Col. Hawley and himself, of the progress of the excavations at Old Sarum, with two plans. The site is being carefully worked over, and a P.S. to the Report adds: "To carry out the work on an adequate scale some 600l. or 700l. will be required annually, and the work will probably occupy as many as ten years."

MUSIC

VOICE PRODUCTION.

The Art of Breathing. By Jeanne van Oldenbarnevelt. Fourth Enlarged Edition. (Breitkopf & Härtel.)

Introduction to a New Method of Respiratory Vocal Re-Education. By F. Matthias Alexander. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)

Voice Culture. By James Bates. (Novello & Co.)

FOR singers the art of breathing is of the highest importance, but the author of the first book above named, who is well known in medical circles in Paris and in Holland, shows how her system of teaching to breathe properly may prevent disease, and how it may cure and relieve various complaints: these are its services to science. Breathing is also the foundation of the art of singing and declamation, but is not serviceable until perfect control of the breath is obtained by a series of exercises more or less fully described. Miss Jeanne van Oldenbarnevelt states that her little book is not sufficient as a guide: to appreciate her system duly one must hear her lecture and see her at work. This much, however, may be said. Her belief in following nature, her approval of the method of inspiration as taught by the old Italian masters, and her knowledge and experience, give weight to her utterances. We venture, one little comment. By explaining to children that they are bearers of "most sublime principles, sentiments, and thoughts," she hopes to place humanity again on its high pedestal. This, she claims, is a better way "than to try to prove that man descends from the ape." When writing these words she must surely have been thinking of the title of Darwin's great book rather than of his argument.

The pamphlet by Mr. Alexander deals with the same subject. This author also professes to follow nature, and his aim, likewise, is to secure full control over all parts of the muscular system. But for the present he is chiefly occupied in showing "serious defects in systems employed in training students." In a future work he hopes to deal with the scientific aspect of practical respiratory re-education.

'Voice Culture' is a 'Practical Primer on the Cultivation and Preservation of Young Voices,' with exercises for the use of schools, &c. The author was the founder, and is still director, of the London College for Choristers. Instead of entering into detail, we would just mention one or two points which suggest comment.

Composers try, wherever they can, to make their melodies correspond with the character of the words. Hence, adds the author, "pauses and emphases in the one are accompanied by pauses and emphases in the other." When, however, this is not the case, he says "it is a safe rule never to let the music interfere with the sense of the words." It is a pity when there is not agreement, but certainly instances could be named in which the music is the more important.

Again, we are told that a young singer, when a new song is put into his hands,

"should make a point of reading it through very carefully, making quite sure that he understands it." But in the case of a young singer the safest plan would surely be first to read the poem to him, and even explain any passage which might be misunderstood. Then the position is given of the book or copy from which the child is singing. Why, by the way, should not children be trained in memory, i.e., by being asked, after becoming fairly familiar with the music, to sing without it? It would ensure a better position of the body, and render stooping less likely. Moreover, it would accustom children to use, and therefore strengthen, their memories. Any one who has noticed the few singers who dispense with book or copy at their recitals will have felt how great an advantage this is both to them and their audience.

ORGAN MUSIC.

Short Preludes for the Organ, Books I.-III. (Novello & Co.)—These Preludes are intended for use as introductory voluntaries to divine service, and especially in churches, in which the time allowed for such music is usually somewhat limited. The pieces occupy in performance from about one to two minutes. In such cases organists, unwilling, probably, to break off in the middle of some fairly long piece, are tempted to improvise. Some, of course—as, for instance, Mr. W. Wolstenholme, one of the contributors to these books—are skilled in this art, which in former days was more practised than at present; but many organists simply go on playing chords and passages in an aimless kind of way, ready at a moment's notice to end with the usual cadence.

The Preludes in question, however short and simple they may be, show design and skill. The composers represented are Thomas Adams, W. G. Alcock, G. J. Bennett, Myles B. Foster, Alfred Hollins, Charles J. May, John E. West, and the one named above.

No. 38 of "The Recital Series of Original Compositions for the Organ," edited by Edwin H. Lemare, is a light, cleverly written, and effective *Allegretto* by Claude E. Cover.

Musical Gossip.

THE first novelty heard at the Promenade Concerts at Queen's Hall consisted of 'Two Eastern Dances,' by Mr. Easthope Martin, a young composer who has studied at Trinity College of Music. The pieces are entitled respectively 'Egyptian Bell Dance' and 'Snake Dance,' and each opens with languorous strains, these being succeeded by others of a barbaric character, which are worked up to an exciting climax. Contrast is obtained by different schemes of colour, and the scoring shows skill and imagination.

AMONG works recently performed were the cleverly orchestrated Suite by Rimsky-Korsakoff, entitled 'The Eve of Christmas,' which was given under Mr. Henry Wood's direction at the Sheffield Festival of 1908; Mozart's Theme, Variations, and Rondo for wind instruments, which was admirably played; Beethoven's First Symphony; and Mr. York Bowen's showy and effective Pianoforte Concerto in E flat, the composer, who has a powerful technique, undertaking the solo part. An able performance of

Strauss's 'Don Quixote' Variations brought out the good qualities of the work, and Mr. Wood showed no inclination to lay special emphasis on certain exaggerated features which appear in the score, for instance, the bleating of the flock of sheep. Mr. Arthur Catterall, the "leader" of the band, answered the exacting tests imposed by the solo part in Brahms's Violin Concerto resourcefully. He has an excellent technique, and he interpreted the music with dignity and earnestness, though perhaps with scarcely sufficient feeling. Saint-Saëns's Fantasia, 'Africa,' was taken in hand by Miss Auriol Jones, a talented pianist, who exhibited much fluency, and surmounted the executive difficulties with facility.

AMONG the songs submitted was Mousorgsky's 'Musician's Peep Show,' in which the peculiarities of several critics of the day and other musical types are dealt with in a humorous manner. In his orchestration of the song Mr. Henry Wood has entered thoroughly into the spirit of the parody.

THE eighth season of the London Choral Society, which opens on the 26th of October, will consist of four choral and orchestral concerts. Parts I. and II. of Mr. Granville Bantock's 'Omar Khayyam' will be given at the first; also two compositions for chorus and orchestra by Miss Ethel Smyth, and two short cantatas by Mr. Bertram Shapleigh. The programme of the second will include Parts I. and II. of Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha,' and a new work to be shortly announced. At the third it is intended to give Verdi's 'Requiem.' For its final concert the Society will select one or more of the novelties to be produced at the Gloucester, Cardiff, and Leeds Festivals. The prominence given by Mr. Arthur Fagge to native compositions deserves note and commendation.

THE revised list of works to be brought forward during Mr. Thomas Beecham's season at Covent Garden, which begins on October 1st, comprises many operas and composers. Five of Wagner's operas are promised, and four by Mozart, including 'The Magic Flute.' The season opens, as we have already mentioned, with Mr. Eugen D'Albert's 'Tiefand,' and the first month's programme contains Ambroise Thomas's 'Hamlet,' Strauss's 'Elektra,' Offenbach's 'Tales of Hoffmann,' Beethoven's 'Fidelio,' and Wagner's 'Tristan.'

AMONG the novelties are included Strauss's 'Guntram,' Berlioz's 'Les Troyens,' Dukas's 'Ariane et Barbe Bleue,' Leroux's 'Le Chemineau,' Tchaikowsky's 'Pique Dame,' Mr. Joseph Holbrooke's 'Dylan,' and Mr. Frederick Delius's 'Koanga.' Saint-Saëns's 'Henry VIII.' will not be given, but the list of works further comprises Smetana's 'Bartered Bride,' Mr. George Clutsam's 'A Summer Night,' and Sullivan's 'Ivanhoe.' Strauss's 'Salome' is promised, if the consent of the Censor can be obtained.

THE conductors will be Mr. Thomas Beecham, Mr. Percy Pitt, Signor Camilieri—who has been conducting the Duke of Devonshire's private orchestra at Eastbourne—Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, and Mr. Alfred Hertz. There is a long and satisfactory list of singers engaged.

THE excellent concerts at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, need no advertisement. But reference may be made to the 'Complete List of Works,' just issued, performed at the 910 Symphony and Classical Concerts given between October 14th, 1895, and May 12th, 1910. One hundred and twenty-nine British composers are represented by

454 works. The total number of separate works performed amounts to 1,263, contributed by 308 composers of varied nationalities, this number including the British contingent.

WE read in *Le Ménestrel* of the 20th inst., and with regret, that the result of the recent festival at Salzburg in honour of Mozart was, financially, unsatisfactory. There was a deficit of 20,000 kronen, which the Mozarteum, itself in need of funds, will have to make good.

MUCH interest is being manifested in German musical circles concerning the forthcoming production of a dramatic opera entitled 'The Devil's Path,' written by a young Polish composer M. Ignatz Waghalter, who for some time past has been one of the conductors at the Berlin Komische Oper. The "book" by Rudolf Lothar, who wrote the libretto for Mr. D'Albert's 'Tiefand,' deals with an episode of Polish village life. The music is said to be strongly impregnated with national characteristics, and to be full of vitality and modernity. M. Waghalter gained his position at the Komische Oper by his feat on the occasion of the 200th performance in Berlin of 'Tiefand.' The conductor was unexpectedly absent; M. Waghalter offered to take his place, and proved his familiarity with every detail of the score.

GOLDMARK's 'Queen of Sheba' will be performed by the Carl Rosa Opera Company, for the first time in London, at the Kennington Theatre on Monday evening. Verdi's 'La Forza del Destino' will be given in English, for the first time in London, on Friday evening.

ON Thursday evening a season of Italian Opera opens at the Kingsway Theatre with a performance of Rossini's 'Il Barbiere.'

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.-SAT. Promenade Concerts, 5, Queen's Hall.
MON.-SAT. Carl Rosa Opera Company, 5, Kennington Theatre.
(Matinee Thursday, 2.)
THURS. 'Il Barbiere di Siviglia,' 5.30, Kingsway.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE autumn season started early last Monday with a play which serves to introduce to Londoners a new actress from America, Miss May Robson. That it furnishes her with opportunities for the display of genuine comic power, and shows her capable of doing what not a few American actresses of her type can do well—of passing in quick succession from moods of fun to those of pathos, and from pathos back to fun—is perhaps the only, but yet the sufficient justification for the existence of 'The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary.' But for the pace at which it is taken at Terry's Theatre, it might be called old-fashioned, so artless is its story. Still, it has a droll idea and many lively moments.

AUNT MARY is a quick-tempered, but kindly old woman who pays a visit to her scapegrace nephew at his university, thinking him to be ill, and is there introduced to his college friends; she has supper with these boys, and thaws in the genial atmosphere they exhale—nay, she grows young, and vows that she will never again vegetate in the country. Miss Robson's ease and vigour and smiles make the trifle very acceptable, and invest the heroine with a pleasing individuality.

THE piece just mentioned begins the new season, but a number of plays are still

running, while Mr. Frohman's repertory scheme disappeared some time ago. Three specimens of musical comedy, 'Our Miss Gibbs,' 'The Arcadians,' and 'The Dollar Princess,' are, as might be expected, the most long-lived successes. After these come two excellent melodramas, 'The Whip' and 'The Bad Girl of the Family'; and 'The Importance of being Earnest,' the remarkable success of which is a just tribute to the wit of Oscar Wilde. 'Tantalising Tommy' is next, being near its two-hundredth performance.

THE remaining plays running are 'The Naked Truth,' 'The Speckled Band,' 'The Girl in the Train,' 'Priscilla Runs Away,' and 'The White Man,' a revived melodrama. It will be noticed that no original play by any of our leading living dramatists, young or old, figures in this list.

MESSRS. METHUEN's list of books for the second half of the year includes a reproduction in facsimile of the First Folio of Shakespeare, on the same lines as those of the Second, Third, and Fourth, already published; 'Macbeth,' edited by Mr. H. Cunningham in the excellent 'Arden Shakespeare'; and 'Our Stage and its Critics,' by Mr. Edward F. Spence, whose own work in criticism is followed by many readers.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE announce 'A History of English Dramatic Companies, 1558-1642,' by Mr. G. Tucker Murray, in two volumes. The book will contain the results of a good deal of research among unpublished materials.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS are publishing this season 'Mary, Queen of Scots,' an historical drama by Mr. John Presland.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—D. C.—W. R. N.—E. W. M.—J. D.—Received.

E. R.—Not suitable for us.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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